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Lord Rothschild's truce

The most spectacular, but in any way the least important, aspect of Lord Rothschild's inquiry into the Social Science Research Council is that it is a decisive setback to Sir Keith Joseph's determination to abolish the SSRC. Shortly before Christmas it had seemed to be his firm intention to abolish the council without further formal inquiry but he was dissuaded in a manoeuvre worthy of "Yes, Minister" at its best.

It was pointed out to him that Lord Rothschild's earlier review of the research councils, which had produced the famous customer-contractor principle, had not covered the SSRC on the grounds of its comparative youth. So Sir Keith was persuaded to invite Lord Rothschild to undertake a special review of the SSRC, although it was clear from an exchange of letters with Sir Geoffrey Howe which were leaked to the press and from his decision to cut the SSRC's budget disproportionately despite contrary advice from the ABC that his hostility to the council had not waned.

So Lord Rothschild's report must be a great disappointment to Sir Keith. As Mr Michael Posner, the SSRC's chairman, nervously and constantly insists, the report is not a "whitewash" but it is much closer to that than, to borrow Professor A. H. Halsey's phrase, "the nasty hatchet job" for which Sir Keith must have been hoping. On the issue of whether the SSRC should continue in its present form Lord Rothschild is rock solid: to dismember or liquidate the council would be in his judgment an act of intellectual vandalism.

It is, of course, possible that Sir Keith will still go ahead and abolish the SSRC, as he has just done with the Schools Council. But he can only do so at peril to what is left of his reputation in higher education. Abolition of the SSRC would now be an act of ideological prejudice that would be beyond, or beneath, serious debate. The most likely outcome is that the Secretary of State will retreat behind a smoke-screen carefully laid down by his officials (and possibly with a formal dissent from Lord Rothschild's recommendation that the SSRC's present budget should be guaranteed).

The second and more important aspect of Lord Rothschild's report is that it reaches the tight conclusion that if the SSRC were to be abolished it would either have to be re-invented in another and possibly less satisfactory form or else a lot of important social science research would not get done. Of course, in both senses this conclusion is banal - only Sir Keith Joseph, Lord Beloff and a few other critics of the council ever argued otherwise. So it could be said that £27,000 of public money has been spent to convince a few recalcitrant but influential critics of a truth which the overwhelming majority in both higher education and in government has never doubted.

But in another sense Lord Rothschild's conclusion is important. Social science had begun to develop a siege mentality: the intellectual consequences of which might have been very serious. Lord Rothschild's report will help to lighten this oppressive atmosphere. If Sir Keith is generous enough to accept the advice to stop harassing social science through attacks on the SSRC and its budget, it is possible that social science may be able to use this truce to try to sort out some of the difficult choices which its constituent disciplines undoubtedly face.

Within the context of his general approval of the SSRC's work, Lord Rothschild raises three broad questions

First, he expresses some doubt about the effectiveness of the council's operations. He is particularly, and perhaps unfairly, critical of the SSRC's record in publicizing social science research. Of course, social scientists use jargon and the worse they are the more jargon they use. But how precisely do you persuade The ("Up Yours, Galtieri") Sun to take a serious and positive interest in social science research?

He is also critical of the excessive bureaucracy of the SSRC, suggesting that the council should have either a full-time chairman or a secretary/ chief executive and non-executive chairman, and recommends that the council's refereeing policy should be liberalized and decentralized. All are important suggestions. But it would be wrong to conclude that the SSRC has a worse management record than the other research councils or any comparable public bureaucracy which has to juggle with academic and political priorities. If the SSRC is deficient in this respect, a lot of the blame must be attached to the Government which have harassed it. A truce, therefore, might make a substantial contribution to improving the management of the council.

The second issue raised by Lord Rothschild is the partiality of some social science research. In particular he insists that the allegations of trade union bias made against the council's

'Social science had begun to develop a siege mentality... Lord Rothschild's report will help to lighten this oppressive atmosphere'

unit for industrial relations at Warwick and panel of monitoring labour legislation must be investigated. The first allegation is based on the worst of criticisms made by Lord Beloff and the second does not appear to be based on any of the published evidence in Lord Rothschild's report.

Three observations can perhaps be made on these accusations. First, Lord Rothschild may have been in error in giving such weight to what appear to be general rather than specific criticisms made by Lord Beloff. The result is an apparent accusation of systematic bias against both the unit and the panel, which comes close to a suggestion of professional misconduct (and so brushes close to defamation). Such an accusation is clearly very damaging. Even when it is satisfactorily disposed of, as it surely will be, the fact that it was ever taken seriously is bound to inhibit the academic freedom of those who work in the unit.

Secondly, Lord Rothschild in his own report argues that social science can never be value-free, although it can of course be conducted under conditions of proper academic integrity and to that extent can be "extra-political". If this commonsense judgment is followed, he has provided his own answer to the accusation of bias at Warwick. Thirdly, the SSRC cannot be expected to see that all possible forms of bias are eliminated from the research it supports. To try to do so would be an intellectual nonsense. Its responsibility should be confined to ensuring that its portfolio of research is pluralist ones. There is nothing in Lord Rothschild's report which suggests that this is not the case.

of the intellectual validity of sociology and more practically its actual quality within universities and polytechnics. Here Lord Rothschild seems to have caught a mild dose of Josephitis. He does not of course suggest that sociology is an unworthy discipline of knowledge. But he does suggest that too many sociology departments have mediocre standards, and recommends that the SSRC should do nothing to encourage the formation of new departments and should instead refuse to sustain in any way sub-standard ones.

It may be very doubtful if the report of an official inquiry is the right place to discuss whether sociology is or is not more coherent intellectually than economics, or history, or physics. It is also very doubtful if it is fair to pick on sociology. After all, during the very rapid expansion of higher education in the 1960s many departments in many disciplines acquired staff who before or since that period might have found it difficult to get appointed. To that extent there may have been a dilution of quality. It may even have happened in sociology and social science generally more than in the more traditional disciplines, because its intellectual contours were less clear and because the expansion was especially rapid. But it is doubtful if sociology is a significantly worse offender in this respect than many other disciplines.

In addition to these three issues raised by Lord Rothschild there are two extra-Rothschild issues that must be considered. The first is our chronic failure to achieve a sufficiently broad policy perspective on research across all disciplines. In recent months we have had two reports on research. Swinerton-Dyer on post-graduate education and now Rothschild on the SSRC. We still await Merrison on the dual support system. It really makes little sense to have a series of single-issue reports like this. There is certainly evidence of a growing crisis in research but it cannot be tackled, or even understood, by a series of uncoordinated efforts. The crisis consists in much of the ailing relationships between different parts of the research system as it does of the parts themselves failing.

The second issue is just as important. In his latest report Lord Rothschild is careful to suggest that his famous customer-contractor principle cannot safely be applied to the social sciences. Yet he hardly goes beyond this negative statement, except to conclude: that an independent research council is the appropriate model for supporting social science research. Rather surprisingly he has little to say on one side or the other about the controversy on how the SSRC should set about its job - by working forwards from academic disciplines or backwards from social problems. Not everyone is confident that the SSRC in its latest reorganized committee structure has got it right. A truce with the Government is certainly needed but not a freeze on this larger intellectual debate.

Two battles remain to be fought by the SSRC, both in an important sense, more crucial, to the council's future, than Sir Keith's kamikaze attack on Lord Beloff's partisan gripes against the Warwick unit. The first is to put right the imbalance between academic inquiry and "customer demand" that has grown up under the intense political pressure which the SSRC has suffered in recent years. The creeping Rothschildism should be reversed. The second is to adopt a successful strategy to reverse the equally damaging decline in funding for social science research.

Laurie Taylor



Mummy! Yes, darling. Mummy, mummy. Come quickly. Come quickly. Something's happened to daddy.

What is it, darling? Look, mummy. Look! Where my little one? Where? Down there, mummy. At the bottom of the garden. There. But where my love? I can't see him.

Up the tree. Up the tree. Daddy's climbing up the big tree. Oh my God, he is. STANLEY! STANLEY! What ARE you doing?

Mummy, he's going right to the top. Right to the very top. STANLEY! Take care. Do you hear me? Take care.

Gosh, mummy. He's at the top-pest branch. Look. I dare'n.

Look, mummy. You must look. He's hanging on with one arm and leaning right out. Oh no.

And he's lifting his other arm in the air. He's like a nempcor, mummy. A Roman nempcor. Oh God.

Mummy! He's shouting. He's shouting something.

CAN YOU HEAR ME OUT THERE?

Who's he speaking to, mummy? I've a nasty suspicion, darling, that it may be the world.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME. HASN'T IT? A LONG TIME. FOR YEARS NOW YOU'VE DESPISED US. THOUGHT US SECOND-RATE. LAUGHED AT OUR BOOKS AND IDEAS.

Look, mummy. There are people standing in all the gardens. Shush, darling. Daddy's shouting.

BUT NOW THE BOOTS ON THE OTHER FOOT, ISN'T IT? WE'RE ON THE WAY BACK. OH YES, YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR A GREAT DEAL FROM US IN THE FUTURE. FOR NEVER FORGET, WE HOLD A MIRROR UP TO THE COMMUNITY.

Mummy. The branch is bending right over every time daddy waves his fist in the air.

AND DON'T COME TELLING US THAT YOU DON'T LIKE OUR RESEARCH. THAT WE ARE BIASED. POLITICALLY MOTIVATED. "HOME TRUTHS ARE UNPALATABLE." RIGHT?

Oooh, mummy, I'm frightened. He's holding out both arms. Like God does.

YES, ONCE AGAIN WE CAN ANNOUNCE OUR CALLING TO TAXI-DRIVERS AND SHOPKEEPERS, ONCE AGAIN MEET ANYONE'S GAZE IN THE SENIOR COMMON ROOM. WE ARE TIRY - BORN AGAIN.

Oh, mummy, will he be all right? Yes, I think so darling. It's not a very tall tree. In fact it's the others I'm most worried about. What are THEY doing?

What others, mummy?

Well, darling, it's obvious. I mean, daddy can't possibly be the only sociologist to have just read Rothschild.

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SSRC's cut could be restored

by Paul Flather

Proposals to restore part or all of the £1.1m cut imposed on the Social Science Research Council budget last Christmas by Government ministers are being considered by the Advisory Board for the Research Councils. The proposals amount to a severe rebuff to Sir Keith Joseph who imposed the extra 5 per cent cut on the SSRC just three months after taking over as Secretary of State for Education. The board considered the proposals last month when the budgets for all five research councils for 1983-84 were formally presented for a first examination.

The board has been encouraged to give extra weight to the proposals by the recent publication of the Rothschild review of the SSRC which says the council is necessary, would have to be re-invented if it was abolished, and needs a secure funding base. Lord Rothschild recommended that the SSRC budget should not be cut in real terms for at least three years "irrespective of what happens, through sheer necessity, to the other research councils". He described the SSRC share of the total science vote - £20.9m of £463.89m for 1982-83 - as "a disturbingly low figure given the existence of crime, poverty, race riots, drug addiction, mental illness - problems which most people would agree could benefit from intensive study". The SSRC had expected level funding during the coming budget year, but was suddenly sad-

ded with a £1.1m cut last December forcing it to axe a further 80 studentships and take £550,000 off its grants. Sir Keith's discriminatory cut was imposed over the heads of board members, and in spite of pleas from Sir Alec Merrison, the chairman. The SSRC has submitted its budget plan in two parts, the first on the basis of level funding as laid down in the Government's Expenditure White Paper, and second on the basis of clawing back extra funds for 1983-84. The exercise will cause controversy among the research councils and board members. The Labour Party has welcomed Lord Rothschild's defence of the SSRC, saying Sir Keith would be foolish to ignore the proposal in the report that it should be left free from further special inquiries for at least three years.

Professor John Paul: a seeker after truth

by Olga Wojtas Scottish Correspondent

Pope John Paul II was greeted by a crowd of 3,500 leading educationists and students in St Andrew's College of Education in Glasgow, which was formed this session by the merger of Scotland's two Roman Catholic Colleges, Craiglockhart and Notre Dame. Flanked by the college principal, Sister Margaret Sheridan, Archbishop Thomas Winning and Cardinal Gordon Gray, the Pope emphasized his commitment to separate Catholic schools and training colleges, and praised the Scottish Education Act of 1981.



Sister Margaret Sheridan, Archbishop Winning and Cardinal Gray (right) with the Pope

Segregated teacher training is a burning issue, particularly in Northern Ireland which is still awaiting a Government decision on the recommendations made by the Clilver report that Catholic education colleges should merge with non-denominational institutions. "Catholic education is above all a question of communicating Christ," said the Pope. Modern education was measured to a large extent by the qualifications it provided, and until now a certificate was seen as the virtual guarantee of career expectations. "But nowadays, as we have been made only too aware, the possession of a certificate does not bring automatic employment. Indeed, this harsh reality has brought about not only deep frustration among young people, many of whom have worked so hard, but also a sense of malaise in the educational system itself."

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Poly decision near

by Charlotte Barry

A series of crucial meetings this month will decide the future of the Polytechnic of Central London after a highly critical report from outside auditors. The detailed audit carried out by Inner London Education Authority officers confirms preliminary findings that the main cause of the polytechnic's cash crisis is lack of accountability and control. The audit team confirmed lack of accountability and control, unsound budgeting processes and the absence of specific budgets. The management's recovery plan is criticized for failing to consider its long term effects or provide alternative options. The audit team recommends clear and unambiguous budgeting, monitoring, accounting and management systems. It says clear lines of managerial responsibility must be laid down by the court and the recovery plan strengthened. It criticises the way senior members of staff and the court of governors were not involved in the block grant submission. "The process was essentially one that involved only the finance officer and the rector," it says. Other weaknesses revealed were: no formal budget was prepared and agreed by all levels of management including the court; lack of management data to draw up a list of

conditions which the court of governors will consider on June 28. If these are accepted, ILEA's further and higher education sub-committee is expected to approve the block grant for 1982-83 two days later. The final audit confirms lack of accountability and control, unsound budgeting processes and the absence of specific budgets. The management's recovery plan is criticized for failing to consider its long term effects or provide alternative options. The audit team recommends clear and unambiguous budgeting, monitoring, accounting and management systems. It says clear lines of managerial responsibility must be laid down by the court and the recovery plan strengthened. It criticises the way senior members of staff and the court of governors were not involved in the block grant submission. "The process was essentially one that involved only the finance officer and the rector," it says. Other weaknesses revealed were: no formal budget was prepared and agreed by all levels of management including the court; lack of management data to draw up a list of

Fight for pool rights begins

by John O'Leary

Central and local government leaders have launched a joint initiative to prevent the diversion into other areas of funds earmarked for higher education. Both sides are anxious to nip in the bud the practice by some authorities of funding non-advanced courses through the Advanced Further Education pool. Although only a few authorities are known to have used part of their pool allocation in this way, Sunderland and Portsmouth polytechnics have lost substantial sums.

The move to put pressure on local authorities to reserve pool money entirely for higher education came through the board of the National Advisory Body. Now the NAB committee, chaired by Mr William Waldgrave, under secretary for higher education, and dominated by representatives of the local authority associations, is to approach authorities directly.

Mr John Bevan, secretary of the NAB, has been instructed to write stressing that the new body's policy will be to restrict the use of pool funds to advanced work. The new Technical Support Group, which is to advise on the distribution of next year's pool, will consider how to enforce the policy.

There is no mechanism for the Department of Education and Science to enforce its decisions on the use of pool money. This year Hampshire gave only £15.1m of its £16.1m allocation intended for Portsmouth Polytechnic, while Sunderland Polytechnic effectively lost more than £400,000 of its proposed allocation.

The effectiveness of the NAB's action will be a test of its ability to defend public sector higher education, showing that it is not simply a vehicle for cuts, as many delegates to the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education's conference claimed. In a speech to the conference, Mr Bevan defended the NAB's role but warned of the possible consequences of last year's high level of student recruitment. Its effect had been to lower the average cost per student by worsening staff-student ratios, he said, leaving the way open for a future government to insist on similar increases in productivity. Institutions would have to decide whether the exercise could be repeated without endangering standards.

He brushed aside criticisms of inaccuracy in the list of 340 under-recruited courses considered by NAB last month. There had been a warning in the DES advice that data would need to be checked, he said, and most of the errors were inconsequential. A maximum of four courses would be closed at first.

Secret talks on overseas institute at Westfield College

by Ngajo Creguer

Secret talks are taking place on providing a separate institute or section within Westfield College specifically to recruit overseas students for the University of London. Westfield would provide hostels and student services and there are suggestions that an old police home presently for sale near the college could be bought for accommodation. A four year course would be laid on, with the first year aimed at bringing the students up to university entrance standards. Students would proceed to degree courses at Westfield or possibly other London University colleges. The proposal, backed by London's vice chancellor, Professor Randolph Quirk, is aimed at stopping his decline in overseas numbers, and at improving the chaotic recruitment system. Discussions have been so secret that when the plan was briefly mentioned at a Westfield academic board meeting, there was a request that it be not pursued. Some 30 students will probably arrive in October but if the plan goes ahead substantially more, from all

over the world, are expected ultimately. The plan received a fillip when the University Grants Committee made it clear that colleges would not be penalized if they attracted extra outside income. The scheme would be self-supporting. A Westfield College International Trust would be set up, UK-based but with outposts throughout the world. Initially, students are expected to come from the United States, Latin America, the Middle East, North Africa and Malaysia. Professor Quirk believes that a formal machinery set up within a London college would be more successful than some of the efforts being made by other universities to attract and provide for overseas students. He said: "It would be quite a small institution, to begin with but could grow into something quite large. At London we have the experience to do this because of the flexibility of our exam system and our teaching of English as a foreign language." "We felt it was high time that one institute at least in London should look to this particular task. It is much more important than merely recruiting overseas students. Westfield has responded enthusiastically."

News in brief Exiles gain extra grace

Ministers have agreed to relax further the regulations giving exemption from overseas student fees to refugees. The new move follows lobbying by the World University Service and other refugee agencies and is expected to allow a number of exiled students to pursue places in British higher education this autumn. It extends from one year to four the gap in studies allowed by the Department of Education and Science during which a refugee can claim that a course was interrupted and qualify for a mandatory award. The twelve month maximum was stipulated last year when special regulations were introduced for refugee students. The change was welcomed this week by WUS, although an official said a complete lifting of time limits would have been preferable. However, a greater problem existed in further education, where refugees stood little chance of securing discretionary awards, she said.

Dons decide

Oxford University dons are voting in a postal ballot this week on whether to reject for the third year running a proposal to charge overseas students fees higher than the Government minima. The proposal was rejected in congregation, the university parliament of dons, by 37 votes to 20. But 75 votes are needed before the university's ruling council is obliged to drop it. The university says it needs to raise funds by every means possible.

Body boost

Around four-fifths of London's colleges, political and educational bodies, students, teachers and employers organizations, school governing and local MPs approve of a proposed tertiary education structure to administer courses for 16-19 year olds. But they have reservations about its composition, powers and representation on its boards.

Falklands think in

Glasgow University's Institute of Latin American Studies is to hold a one-day conference tomorrow on Britain, the Americas and the Falklands crisis. Participants, who will include MPs, specialists in military and defence studies, and Latin Americans including Argentinians, will discuss how the crisis was handled by politicians, the military and the media, and what implications the crisis has for Europe, the United States and the Soviet Union.

Peace plea

A £3,000 appeal has been launched at Manchester University this week to endow an annual Peace Lecture to be delivered by "an eminent person of international standing". The appeal, first mooted before the Falklands crisis, is sponsored by senior members of the university's academic staff, including 17 professors and the editor of Manchester University Press. If the appeal is successful, the first lecture is expected to be held in the autumn of next year.

Quickie course

Wolverhampton Polytechnic is offering a two-year BEd degree in craft design and technology from this September. Students already holding a higher national diploma or certificate or the national diploma in design and with industrial experience will be eligible.

Toxic tonic

The European Medical Research Council has launched a programme of grants of training and research in toxicology: the study of poisonous chemicals. It includes short training courses and longer fellowships to gain greater knowledge of potentially toxic chemicals used in the environment, in industry and in medical treatment.

Women fare worst on university ladder

by Ngain Crequer

Only 10 per cent of academic staff in the universities are women and 82 per cent of them are in the lower paid lecturer grade, according to the Equal Opportunities Commission. In *Women in Universities*, published this week by the EOC, based on data collected by the Universities Statistical Record the overwhelming picture is of women occupying the lower status jobs and earning less, both in teaching and non-academic jobs. Women academics are concentrated much more than men in the lecturer/assistant lecturer grade. Only 18 per cent of women are in higher grades, compared with 40 per cent of men. A third of all female staff are in arts, compared with a fifth of men and 28 per cent of men are in science compared with 12 per cent of women. More men become teachers, 30 per cent of men in 1978/79 compared with 11 per cent of women. Usually less than 20 per cent of the new graduate teaching staff each year are women. Women form about 26 per cent of administrative staff; 53 per cent of

staff in the lowest grade are women and only 2 per cent are in the highest grade. Nearly three-quarters of women are in grade 1A or 1B compared with only one-third of men. There are no women vice chancellors. Women form only 3 per cent of staff in "estates and buildings" but 61 per cent of staff in "accommodation." Just over a quarter of all research staff are women; half of these are in the lowest grade compared with a third of all men. The largest group of women are in lower grades in medical subjects and science and social science. Eighty-eight per cent of all clinical staff are men, the majority of whom are senior academics. Forty-four per cent of all full-time library staff are women but a higher proportion than men are in lower grades. The statistics for part-time posts suggest, says the EOC, that whereas men might be visiting teachers or consultants, with other jobs, women had no other paid employment.

Women in Universities, free, from EOC, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN.

Call for biotech boost

by Karen Gold

Britain will only reap the benefits of biotechnology with greater Government control and investment, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs has told a Commons select committee. In evidence to the Select Committee for Education, Science and the Arts, the union argues that the Government is relying too heavily on commercial investment and innovation. "ASTMS is extremely worried by the Government's attitude to the problem of investment... no practical proposals are put for government action, investment or incentives to industry," the report says. Japan and the United States are both spending more than Britain, the union alleges, while British scientists

and technicians are lured to the US and France because of higher salaries. More public spending is needed not only in the commercial area - research and development, publicly-owned industry and tax incentives - but also in education, with more money for science teaching in schools and universities. The union implicitly takes issue with the Government, which has calculated potential numbers for biotechnology training as low, by arguing: "If the field expands as we suggest, it will be requiring large numbers of skilled employees in many different scientific areas within 10-15 years." The Government should also take more control over the form biotechnology development takes, ASTMS says.

Argentine sociologists seek help

An appeal for British and Argentine sociologists to work more closely and to exchange ideas and information has appeared in the British Sociological Association newsletter. The article is by Mario Toer, a former sociology lecturer at Buenos Aires University who spent seven years in detention. He was released last year after pressure by human rights groups in Britain and Argentina. Mr Toer, now exiled in London, writes that Argentine sociologists are making efforts to maintain centres of activity which might allow expansion of teaching and research, but they need help from British sociologists. The article was submitted to *Network*, the BSA newsletter, before the Falkland Islands conflict. But Mr Toer believes, along with the leading dissenting Committee of Human Rights in Argentina, that the conflict is a "smokescreen" by the ruling junta to divert attention from economic ills and human rights violations.

MSC could take over careers service

Abolishing the careers service and bringing it under the Manpower Services Commission is one of the options under the employment service published by the commission yesterday. The report has been presented to the chairman of the MSC and Sir Derek Rayner, a special adviser to the prime minister in efficiency on Government bodies. The suggestion found considerable duplication between the work of the careers service and MSC's Employment Services Division. Other less radical solutions suggested are for the careers service to be given sole responsibility for counselling young people up to and possibly six months beyond leaving full-time education and/or up to a specified age, and giving the ESD sole responsibility for placing them in permanent work. A third option would be to give the careers service sole responsibility for guidance of young people up to a certain age as well as placing them in permanent work.

Robbins joins the Oxbridge debate

Lord Robbins has joined the debate over a new Royal Commission to look at Oxbridge, saying that if only admissions procedures were to be studied it was like taking a sledgehammer to crack a nut. In a *Robbins Report on Higher Education*, produced in 1963 by a committee chaired by Lord Robbins, it recommended that Oxbridge and Cambridge were unable satisfactorily to solve their internal problems in a

reasonable time they should be the subject of independent inquiry. Lord Robbins said he was not against a Royal Commission in principle but it appeared a portentous expedition to arrive at a reorganization of the entrance examination system. In any case, Oxbridge had set up the Franks Commission following his report. "But it investigates a great



Archival material giving a vivid insight into the life of Victorian children was handed over to Liverpool University by the charity Dr Bernardo's at a ceremony last week. Professor Robert Whelan, the vice-chancellor, is seen with Lady Wagner, who chairs the charity's council, examining the original notes for almost 1,000 sermons dating from 1867 given by Thomas Bernardo.

Union fights for BEd

Scotland's largest teaching union, the Educational Institute of Scotland, has warned that the secondary BEd degree should not be axed merely because enrolments are falling. In its response to the Scottish Education Department proposals to stop the course, the EIS argues that the degree's decline in popularity stems from students' uncertainty that they will obtain a teaching post. "Even the student who is strongly committed to a teaching career will prefer to take a mainstream university degree and a year of postgraduate training on the grounds that his degree may enable him to enter another occupation if he cannot obtain entry to teaching," says the EIS. If the BEd is seen as having intrinsic merit, it should not be extinguished for the "purely pragmatic reasons" of a drop in student numbers. Axiing the degree would not necessarily save staff, the union says, since most lecturers working with the BEd are also involved in other courses and in-service training. The EIS is worried that if the

secondary BEd is axed, the primary BEd might be seen as an inferior degree, at a time when the union thinks a joint qualification should be introduced enabling staff to teach in both primary and secondary schools. Such a qualification, it argues, is likely to be the BEd. It has been suggested that there should be closer links between the last two years of primary and first two years of secondary school, the union says. It adds that these developments could be constrained because the primary and secondary teaching forces had become two completely distinct groups, qualified differently and trained differently. A joint qualification existed a generation ago, says the EIS, and there are still many teachers who have worked in both primary and secondary schools. But unless such a qualification is reintroduced, it adds, these "hybrid" teachers will gradually disappear, and there will be a rigid distinction between the qualifications for teaching in the two sectors. Proposals to axe the secondary BEd would be inimical to any developments towards joint training.

Adult centres should be half an hour away

by Charlotte Barry

Everyone should live less than half an hour away from an adult education institute, according to the Advisory Council for Adult and Continuing Education. A report from the council points out that the most adult education takes place in premises shared with or borrowed from schools, colleges, libraries or community centres. Purpose built or specially adapted buildings should be set up to deal specifically with adult education, the report argues. These would form the central focus for a network of evening centres based in local schools and also provide daytime classes for parents, elderly, handicapped and unemployed people. Each central institute would have its own catchment area and a small core of full-time organizers and tutors. The report recommends each should have at least ten teaching rooms, and space for a coffee bar and lounge, office, hall, a room for student counselling, foyer and display area, canteen facilities, staff room, quiet room and facilities for handicapped people. Schools should continue to provide the bulk of accommodation for evening classes locally but a code of practice should be drawn up over their use by the community. For some time the council has argued consistently that adult education should take over redundant school buildings. Prime use accommodation for Adult Education, price £2, is available from ACE, 19b De Montfort Street, Leicester LE1 7GE.

Principals unhappy NUU seeks merger compromise

by David Jobbins

Attempts to defuse the potentially explosive relationship between college principals and lecturers' union officials are in difficulty. The latest draft of a code of practice on the disciplining of officials by principals has been referred back to its members by the Association of Principals of Colleges. The APC is unhappy that the code, adapted from the code of practice drawn up by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, should be imposed on its members. The APC's governing council meets next week but it was not clear that further progress would be made. Sources suggest that the patience of the lecturers' union the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, is wearing thin. The document, at least the sixth draft since negotiations started two years ago, is to be submitted to the union's July council for approval. If the APC has not ratified it, Natfhe may instruct its principal members to adopt the code. The wording adapted from the ACAS code reads: "Although normal disciplinary standards should apply to their conduct as employees, no disciplinary action beyond a verbal warning should be taken until the circumstances of the case have been discussed with a senior trade union representative or full time official." The need for a code of practice was highlighted by the John Regan

affair, when as secretary of the Natfhe branch at West Ham College, he was suspended by his principal and later sacked by the local education authority. An industrial tribunal two years ago found he had not been dismissed unfairly and negotiations between his union and the ACP were initiated to prevent a repetition. The latest draft of the code has been referred back to branches by the APC's national council, reflecting concern among principals that the ACAS code should not be imposed on them. Past president of the union, Dr W. Bonney-Russell, said: "The ACAS code is like *The Highway Code* - it is not legally binding. We think it would be very difficult to accept a code which implies no teacher can be dismissed if he is a branch official but could only be given a warning until such time as a regional official is called in. There are circumstances in which an individual has committed such outrageous behaviour that he has to be suspended at once." The Association of Polytechnic Teachers has condemned the "gross underrepresentation of academic interests on NAB." Its annual council in London last week passed a resolution drawing attention to the particular lack of direct polytechnic staff involvement and APT leaders are seeking a meeting with chairman Mr Christopher Ball.

Representatives of the New University of Ulster may take part in talks on merger with Ulster Polytechnic but only as observers. This compromise would end the stalemate which arose after NUU's council and senate refused to take part in any talks which would effectively suspend their charter. The NUU council and senate agreed to send another letter this week to the Department of Education in Northern Ireland to say they would be delighted to take part in talks so long as their difficulties over their charter are fully recognised. They will talk about the proposed merger but they will not participate in a steering group that will consider how to bring it about. They have refused to nominate representatives to the steering group. Last week the senate considered banning from campus Sir Peter Swinerton-Dyer, master of St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, and new chairman of the steering group because it might amount to tacit approval for the merger. In the end senate agreed to allow him to visit the Coleraine campus but he will be meeting staff only in his personal capacity, in a series of informal meetings. Sir Peter made a surprise visit to Northern Ireland this week to test opinions at first hand at NUU, the polytechnic and Magee college. At NUU he met the vice-chancellor, Dr William Cockcroft, and senior professors and deans, and asked to meet the unions. He was asked by senior staff if

he was considering any other alternatives to merger. He said no, that if the steering group found that merger was not possible then the Government would have to decide what action to take. Sir Peter was unavailable for comment, but it is understood he will tell the vice-chancellor and senior academics that it is their job to help in studying the feasibility of the proposed merger. But the decision on whether to go ahead or not lies entirely with ministers, he will say. But other academics are beginning to re-question the whole basis of the Chilver report, arguing that the university could develop a third path which did not involve merger or closure. They want to look at ways of bolstering student intake, perhaps by government measures to restrict the numbers able to leave Ulster to study.

Scotland may get new council

The Scottish principals are seeking talks with the Scottish Secretary for proposals for a council to discuss Scottish student intakes with the University Grants Committee. The proposals were made by the Council for Tertiary Education which earlier this year reported on the structure and management of Scotland's tertiary sector, excluding the universities. A new council should be set up, it said, which would have the same relation to the rest of Scottish tertiary education as the UGC had with the universities. But there should be cooperation between the council and UGC since both would be assessing Scotland's higher education needs, and allocating resources. "Cooperation might include arrangements to discuss the number of student places required in each subject area at degree level and the appropriate division of these between the universities and other institutions," the council recommended. It added that the new council might discuss directly with the universities the founding of courses or the ending of existing ones to prevent duplication, and the sharing of resources sharing between colleges and universities. Dr John Burnett, principal of Edinburgh University, stressed that the eight principals were not necessarily opposed to the Tertiary Council's proposals.

Job market favours universities

Polytechnic graduates have more difficulty finding a job than university graduates, research undertaken by the Department of Employment has revealed. At the end of 1980 about a quarter of polytechnic graduates who entered the labour market were still without a permanent job compared with 17 per cent of those from university. But in some subjects, polytechnic graduates fared much worse. More than half of the men graduates in arts or humanities and biology were still unemployed six months after graduation, as were 40 per cent of geographers and 45 per cent of psychologists and social science graduates. And polytechnic fine arts graduates had very high unemployment rates indeed: 63 per cent for men and 60 per cent for women. The figure for university graduates did not exceed 38 per cent in any subject. Subjects where the graduates' chance of a job is higher than average are: medicine, dentistry, accountancy, engineering subjects, business studies, law, mathematics, computer science, physics, geology and economics. Those with an unemployment rate more than 50 per cent above average are: general arts, English, biology, psychology, psychology, history, combinations of biological and physical sciences, biochemistry, chemistry, French and geography. Class of degree is as important as choice of subject. (TES).

Medicine needs extra £10m

Medicine should get another £10m over the next two years with a Government inquiry into its funding, according to the House of Commons social services committee's first report on the University Grants Committee and medical services. The British Medical Association is holding a special conference to discuss the recommendations with the Select Committee chairman Mrs Renee Short MP on June 15. The report says that around 300 clinical academic posts will be lost by 1983 if the recommendations for an extra £25m from the UGC this year and another £25m next year are not implemented. Postgraduate work and research have already been affected by the cuts, the report says, with the immediate freezing of posts following their announcement leaving some departments unable to meet their clinical or health service commitments. In Edinburgh, for example, one dental department had been reduced to only one lecturer, while at Leeds target medical student intake should be reaffirmed and that the DES, DHSS and UGC establish better communications.

posts being vacant for months, including the prestigious chair of medicine at Leeds General Infirmary. Less popular specialities have been hit: the BMA quotes anaesthetics, pathology, geriatrics and psychology as examples. The Department of Education and Science's hope that the NHS will take over posts the universities can no longer support is not adequate, the report says. The UGC's silence on medical education in the letter setting out the cuts is criticized: the report quotes the vice-chancellor of Birmingham as saying: "The structure of this university is such that it is extremely difficult in the absence of any direction from the UGC, to protect the clinical departments of the faculty of medicine and dentistry." Morale in university medical schools is declining, according to the committee, with NHS posts becoming more attractive than academic ones. Apart from the specific protection of clinical departments with the extra £10m, it recommends that the target medical student intake should be reaffirmed and that the DES, DHSS and UGC establish better communications.

UGC says no to UMIST request

by Ngalo Crequer

The University Grants Committee has refused to meet a £190,000 out of court settlement between a builder and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology of a dispute over its metallurgy building. The settlement was made last year after a long dispute between UMIST and the builder, Taylor Woodrow, over an extension to contract. Originally the builders claimed over £800,000. A spokeswoman for the UGC said this week that UMIST had claimed a supplementary grant towards the end of the year, but this had not been agreed. She said that as far as she

was aware there had been a difference of opinion between the contractor and the university advisers. Professor Robert Hazeldine, in a letter to all academic and academic related staff said they still hoped that if not all, at least some, of the money would be refunded by the UGC. The university was preparing a case to the UGC. A spokesman for the university said the UGC had never been under any obligation to meet the claim, although UMIST hoped it would. The UGC's capital funds have become seriously depleted. The claim originated in 1975. In the 1981 the builders nominated an independent arbitrator but settled out of court. The university took the best

legal advice and genuinely thought it had a good deal, he said. UMIST is also to appeal against a UGC decision to take back £40,000 which it contributed towards the residence of Highbank, the principal's residence. A committee chaired by Lord Oregon, a company director and member of UMIST council, is to inquire into the cost of the residence and the principal's consultancy work, following criticisms made by the comptroller and audit general's department. Last week members of the Association of University Teachers at UMIST voted to call for the principal's resignation "in view of the fact that he can no longer be regarded as a

credible and trustworthy leader of the institute." They also passed a motion saying the president should suspend the principal pending investigations, should the principal not resign immediately, and saying they had no confidence in the treasurer, chairman and deputy chairman of council as officers of the institute. Separately, a secret postal ballot of everyone on the UMIST is under way, with the question, "Do you wish Professor Hazeldine to resign as principal?" The court will take place on June 8. Professor Hazeldine has said he does not wish to comment in advance of the committee's set by council.

Graduates face delay in teacher entry

The Graduate Teacher Training Registry is delaying admissions to post-graduate certificate of education courses until mid-October and possibly later. The registry, which handles applications to courses, has taken this step because of delay by the Advisory Committee for the Supply and Education of Teachers (ACSET) in reporting to the Secretary of State. ACSET gave advice in May instead of March, for an increase in primary teachers with a 20 per cent cut in secondary teacher training. This means that institutions will not be informed by the University Grants Committee and the Department of Education and Science until September what their individual targets are and what courses will be running. They also have a right of appeal which could lead to a further postponement in admissions until November. The admissions programme begins in September with institutions starting to recruit by mid-October, but this year this could be as late as December. The registry says that to go ahead with the programme would be unfair to candidates because the number of places on PGCE courses is small and the number of applications high. Applications for 1982 reached 17,983 last week, some four per cent higher than last year and there are already some 5,000 unplaced candidates on the registry. The GTR has been telling enquirers not to apply unless it is for physics, chemistry, maths and religious knowledge where there are still vacancies. The DES is considering greater controls over teacher training to relate them more closely to the age range and subject that students intend to teach. In a paper this week it suggests a four-point programme to get a closer match between teacher qualifications and the jobs they take up. The points include: course reviews as a condition of approval by the Secretary of State; training institutions to specify the age range and subjects when informing the department of successful courses completions - the details would be included in DES letters notifying teachers of their Qualified Teacher Status.

PCL decision

continued from front page ties which show very little formal financial information was made available to senior management and decision making bodies like the court, so no positive control could be exercised. "Of more serious concern is the omission of any financial data on which to base decisions. Invariably the court had made decisions in the past without knowing the full financial effects of implementing those decisions," it says.



Whitehall shadow over research work

by Paul Flather

The policy-orientated committee system of the Social Science Research Council starts work this week amid lingering anxiety among the academic community, especially over future influence from Whitehall.

Members of the six multi-disciplinary subject committees and the three support committees on resources and methods, international work, and information, will hold their first meeting over the next few weeks to discuss priorities for awarding grants.

All 105 members have been sent background papers on how the structure is expected to work, and are aware of the widespread apprehension about whether the committees will lean too much towards supporting policy-relevant work at the cost of more fundamental work.

The structure caused heated debate last year leading the SSRC to issue a special consultation paper, *A Change in Structure for Changing Circumstances*, to put its side of the case to the academic community.

The Society for the Study of Labour History, for example, feared the new system would lead to "technocratic philistinism" and a world where all students would find themselves "chained". The debate was put on ice largely because of the Rothschild inquiry into the SSRC.

Complaints over the top-sided nature of the committee membership are also expected now the lists have been published. The members include only three polytechnic representatives, 13 women, and six names from Scotland, two from Wales, and none from Northern Ireland.

The polytechnics had welcomed the committees because they reflected their own approach to social science research. Increased representation on the committees was widely seen as the first test of their fortunes under the new structure.

The Polytechnic of Central London in a *THESE* survey on the state of social sciences in April saw considerable advantages in the system, while Plymouth said the acid test would be the inclusion of polytechnic people. Polytechnics receive probably about 5 per cent of SSRC grants.

On the university side the survey revealed deep anxiety. Dr James Beckford, dean of social sciences at Durham, said the university was apprehensive about the changes, which could be "potentially disastrous for subjects not fitting into Whitehall spending departments' categories".

Mr Fred Robertson, the dean of letters and social sciences at Reading University, said he was anxious about interdisciplinary and fundamental research, while Salford feared that basic research could be under-rated. Anthropologists at London University are worried about flexibility and breadth of approach. Putting a different view Professor Rudolph Klein of Bath University said he welcomed the emphasis on policy-orientated research.

Academics seeking a share of the £5m available as SSRC grants have to apply to one of six main committees: social affairs; education and human development; industry and employment; economic affairs, environment and planning, and government and law.



College plans to bridge the Humber

Humberide councillors are looking at plans to create a new college by merging part of Grimsby College of Technology and Hull College of Higher Education.

The plan prepared by Mr John Stoddart, director of Hull College and Mr Frank Vivian, acting principal of Grimsby College, was ratified by both colleges' governing councils this week but with one reservation from Grimsby that advanced work related to the South Bank's industry should remain there.

The college, which would open in September 1983, will be similar to a medium-sized polytechnic with up to 3,600 full-time students. The proposal goes to the County Council's education committee later this month.

The college would take in all Hull College's work and the advanced work in Grimsby which includes courses in food science and technology, together with Business Education Council, HND and courses in refrigeration and air conditioning involving some 350 full-time equivalent students.

One reason for the proposal is that Grimsby and Hull's work is complementary rather than competitive, for example work in food science and technology at Grimsby complements that done in Hull in fisheries.

Another reason is that the new institution would guarantee the future of advanced work at Grimsby which amounts to only a fifth of the college's output and protect it from too close examination by the National Advisory Body currently looking at low recruiting courses.

It would also allow the development and expansion of higher education opportunities in South Humber-side - up to now higher education has been concentrated heavily on the north side, yet a third of the population lives in the south where there is a highly developed industry.

UGC opposes higher than planned staff cuts

The University Grants Committee has told Birmingham University that its proposed loss of nine academic posts in education will prevent proper maintenance of the subject.

It has said the loss will not allow education to be maintained as the UGC had envisaged in its July 1981 letters. Then the UGC said that for the system as a whole, although there would be some reduction in PGCE and BED numbers, it hoped that higher degree work, research and in-service training could be maintained. They also want to be informed if Birmingham is unable to meet its PGCE target.

The UGC has also said that proposed staff reductions in medicine and dentistry are higher than desirable (28 academic and 30 support). It notes that numbers in engineering and technology had by 1981/82 already increased by 100, although the UGC had envisaged only a slight increase by 1983/84.

And it says it is concerned about proposals in the law faculty "where there may be a danger that the capacity to undertake research and the ability to devote enough time to teaching could be jeopardized".

The committee of principals and deans is to consider the UGC comments next week.

The detailed changes agreed by the UGC for other universities, as indicated in the annexes to their recent letters, are as follows: Bradford's grant includes provision for 40 extra engineering places and Exeter's grants for 1982/83 and 1983/84 receive a small enhancement in the light of their representation on unit costs.

Hull gets 20 extra places in studies allied to medicine and Kent's grant education to be transferred to two European Studies lecturers from Lancaster. This also increases numbers by 20. Provision is also made for extending the university's activities in continuing education.

At Liverpool, the UGC has agreed a transfer of 70 full-time equivalent (FTE) places in social work from continuing education to full-time arts.

At Nottingham 56 FTE part-time students are reclassified as undergraduates rather than postgraduates. The Salford grants take account of the year's extension of the period of adaptation.

Southampton gets 30 extra science places to assist the nursing course, and Surrey gets 50 more in studies allied to medicine. Courses are also reclassified to give 730 arts (formerly 620) and 1790 science (formerly 1850).

At Sussex 100 arts places are now included in science giving new targets of 2340 and 1370 (formerly 2440 and 1270 respectively).

York's grants receive a small enhancement because of their representation on unit costs. Bangor gets 60 more science places and Stirling 40 more science places and Strathclyde 100 more science.

Untrained lecturers bar school link-up

by Olga Wojtas
Scottish Correspondent

Scottish further education lecturers have called for more money to be spent on staff training.

The Scottish Further Education Association says there are too many untrained lecturers. Training begins too long after staff have started working and some regions, it claims, have refused to release staff for training.

All lecturers should have the right to a paid period of training as soon as their service as possible, says the union.

It is difficult to know how many untrained lecturers there are, since different bodies calculate the figures in different ways, but there have been estimates that 40 per cent have no teaching qualifications.

Present training consists of two ten-week block release courses at Jordanhill's school of further education, linked by two terms of supervised teaching. Colleges are finding it increasingly difficult to release staff for this length of time, says the union, and it suggests introducing distance learning, with only some courses taken at the college.

The union also claims that some regional authorities are not spending money allocated for training in their grants, and says 5 per cent of the staff budget should be earmarked for training, with part of the sum going directly to Jordanhill which would then provide free courses.

The proposal comes just as the Scottish Education Department has suggested to the General Teaching Council, Scotland's professional teaching body, that there should be vocational schemes for 16 to 18-year-olds run jointly by secondary schools and FE colleges.

At present all school teachers must be registered with the council, and their teaching qualification entitles them to work in FE colleges, while FE lecturers are not entitled to teach in schools. It is estimated that only around half have registered with the council.

The council is sympathetic to the SED's proposals but has said that secondary teachers and lecturers to work together FE staff would have to be fully trained and registered, and "only under exceptional circumstances would further education lecturers be used in school to teach subjects common to both sectors".

Medical ethics group scrutinizes research

Medical research proposals are increasingly scrutinized by hospital ethical committees whose aim is to protect patients used for study, an investigation by the University of Southampton community medicine department has found.

The ethical committee for Southampton and the south west Hampshire district was set up in 1970. In 1971 after the submission of all proposals for medical research from Southampton University 10 per cent needed modification or were given conditional approval only.

By 1981, 36 per cent of the proposals were thought to need changes by the committee, whose members are nominated by the university and the NHS. The reasons included concern over confidential information, abortion for example - discomfort or danger to the patients, and lack of explanation to the patient.

The latter has come to concern the committee more, probably because more patients are aware of their rights; the report suggests. The committee says that in the early 1970s the explanation given to patients was rarely cited by either the researchers or the committee.

In some cases, simply "the study will be explained to the patients and informed consent will be obtained" was used. Today the committee wants to know what information the patient will get, and how it will be explained.

The committee has no absolute powers. Southampton's terms of reference were to consider and advise on ethical implications. Nevertheless its attitudes seem to modify research, according to the report.

Although its brief is to ensure "all practical steps are taken to minimize the discomfort or hazard to patients", the committee's own form asked about these after 1975. From then the increase in applications mentioning discomfort or hazard was over 30 per cent.

Even within that, the committee's safeguards seem to be increasing. In the mid 1970s a drug study which meant taking eight blood samples in 24 hours was approved. A recent application involving several blood samples generated discussion not only of discomfort but also of danger.

Privacy is also seen to need greater protection. In the early 1970s there was no objection to a nursing study which led to two reminders and a home visit. For a recent project the committee allowed only one postal reminder and no home visit.

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Architects' course collapses

Britain's first-ever architecture course for mature students is under threat because its students are not eligible for mandatory grants.

The course at Gloucestershire College of Art and Technology for students with experience in the building industry was to start this autumn but the 10 permanent and 15 part-time lecturers in architecture have been told their jobs may go and they will soon receive formal redundancy notices. The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education is fighting to prevent them being sacked.

The course is backed by the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the first batch of 40 students were picked from 300 applications after 1200 enquiries. The college hoped to reduce the normal six years architecture training to four.

The Department of Education and Science approved the course for an initial two years which meant students were only eligible for discretionary grants. A DES spokeswoman said the course could not be extended to four years to allow mandatory grants because of the moratorium on new courses, which allowed only minor adjustments to existing ones.

Mystery voters damage poll

by David Jobbins

An election to a student union office at King's College, London, is to be held again after allegations of dirty tricks.

An investigation into the by-election for internal vice president found that more votes were cast than there were students recorded as voting.

There were also allegations against named students of illegal canvassing near ballot boxes and tearing posters down.

Firmest evidence came when the union president Mr Richard Yarwood found that someone had already cast a vote in his name.

The union's election committee at first said it would not declare the election void but would take strong note of the complaints and recommended tightening up voting procedures next year.

The defeated candidate rejected this and said he would go to the union appeals committee. The successful candidate then said he would not want to continue holding an office which people thought had been secured through a doubtful election, and the committee decided that voting should take place again.

Mr Yarwood said there were 11 doubtful votes but the winning margin had been more than 30, and the outcome would not have been affected materially.

Charlotte Barry, David Jobbins and John O'Leary report from the Natfhe conference in Newcastle

All say aye Leaders dissent from joining CND

Natfhe leaders who opposed affiliation to the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament are to carry on with their opposition despite this week's historic conference decision to join.

They fear that the move will lose members and will aid rival unions who will exploit Natfhe's decision when they step up recruiting activities in the colleges and polytechnics.

Most prominent among the dissenters is Dr Peter Knight, a past president of the union and a member of the executive, who had earlier also vehemently opposed the rule change which paved the way for the CND vote.

But the main opposition during the debate came from the union's incoming vice president, Mr Cecil Robinson, who was elected on a platform which included a pledge to resist both steps.

The debate was brief - two speakers on either side - but the majority for affiliation was substantial, with no count needed.

Ms Sandra Peers (Outer London) attacked the Government for increasing spending on arms including T4 while every other arena including education was being slashed.

"Natfhe's job is to fight on behalf of its members. There can be no more serious and urgent fight than for our very survival."

Deployment of Cruise, a first strike weapon, meant that from now on, in any period of international



Mr Robinson: "Individual recruitment better"



Dr Knight: opposed rule change

Vote to stay with body

A proposal designed to force the withdrawal of Natfhe from the National Advisory Body was heavily defeated.

The Outer London region moved that a paragraph of the annual report dealing with the union's membership of NAB should be referred back, thus removing the basis for continuing participation. Mr John Connelly (Outer London) argued that Natfhe could not afford to participate in the body since it was simply a vehicle for cuts. The current policy would disorientate the membership, which was being asked to resist cuts.

Mr David Triesman, an executive member speaking for inner London, said that the decision on whether to continue in membership was a tactical one which would be put to the test when next year's Advanced Further Education poll was distributed.

"We have a last chance in this matter to influence that process and shape a line of the Oakes proposing, which we have traditionally favoured," he said. "It may turn out that these prospects are thin indeed and we will have to withdraw, but to pull out now can only be described as a gesture." It would be made at inordinate cost, he added.

The resolution which was adopted welcomed the establishment of NAB, while repeating reservations about its structure and composition. It instructed the union's representatives to oppose rationalization merely to reduce expenditure and to reject the development of courses in certain areas. Amendments added opposition to the introduction of corporate status for polytechnics and colleges, on the grounds that local accountability would be undermined.

New president

The new president of Natfhe is Mr Chris Mintia, from North Western region. He took over from Mr Malcolm Lee at the end of conference. Ms Tricia Leman filled the remaining seat on the executive, with Ms Sandy Grant losing her seat.

Pay decision is put off until 1983

Delegates voted to put off a decision of 1983 pay despite being warned that they were sending their leaders "naked into the conference chamber".

The summer's discussions on a common salaries policy for the whole public sector.

They opted for a special conference in December rather than continuing to draw up the framework of a claim in May for implementation 11 months later.

The executive had wanted conference to endorse a policy which was designed to safeguard living standards and relatives with the univer-

Blame put on the economy

Delegates concentrated their fire on the Government's economic and educational policies despite the wishes of the leadership to broaden the attack to include past administrations.

They defeated an executive amendment with this aim and carried without opposition a resolution attacking a policy of "savagely contracting" of the economy and the education service.

Conference called for a campaign with the TUC for an alternative economic strategy in which local government spending would play a major role.

Ms Kathy Levene, a member of the executive, accused ministers of an unprecedented campaign of "hannigans and skulduggery" designed to force local authorities to implement cuts.

And Mr David Triesman said the Government was robbing working people of opportunities to improve skills and abilities in an attempt to move back to the narrow confines of elitism.

Conference gave unqualified backing to a policy of resisting transfers of courses and students designed to facilitate closures.

But it was two Labour-controlled authorities who received the most bitter criticism. Conference pledged full support for five lecturers at a meeting engineering college declared redundant by South Tyneside council without even the minimum statutory notice to the union.

Mr Jack Grassy (Northern) said the sackings were contrary to an assurance by the leader of the Labour group before the elections that there would be no compulsory redundancies.

The branch has banned overtime, blacked vacant posts and imposed a work to rule and Mr Grassy asked the union to impose a national black-out.

Anger over olive branch

Outgoing president Mr Malcolm Lee swayed anger by an apparent offer of an olive branch to members of the rival Association of Polytechnical Teachers.

After accusing the Secretary of State, Sir Keith Joseph of foolishness in giving APT a seat on the Burnham further education committee he said: "Maybe the APT will realize what they have achieved is not a great deal and they might wish to reconsider their position and seek to find their way back into the family via a joint membership scheme."

Training should be voluntary

The Government was threatening to sentence young, unemployed people to the shorts, sharp shock of further education, delegates were told.

The union was instructed to work within TUC policy to light Government plans to make its new youth training scheme compulsory, and withdraw supplementary benefit from young people who refuse to take part.

Patricia Leman, for the union's executive, said the Manpower Services Commission task group's proposals for a comprehensive youth training scheme were progressive by comparison as it consistently emphasized the need for voluntary participation.

"Unless the Government supports the task group and non-compulsion we can't cooperate. We won't be used as the wardens of any further education compulsory set-up," she said.

In reply to the Inner London region's questions whether Natfhe would refuse to cooperate in a compulsory scheme, general secretary Peter Dawson said the union was opposed to compulsion and would support any TUC proposals.

Later in his speech to conference, Mr Dawson said it was crucial the MSC task group's proposals were accepted as they represented a "unique" consensus reached by all parties concerned including unions and employers. The union should stand firm and not give away hard-won conditions of service when a new scheme was introduced.

Delegates also condemned the savage cuts in further education, the abolition of half the industrial training boards and rejected Government proposals for voluntary adult community service.

Robert Langden of West Midlands said colleges were expected to put on training courses with very small budgets and the alternative was for employers to do training on their own premises which involved the further education sector hardly at all.

Leisha Fullick of Inner London warned that the Government had no intention of including adult training in its new youth scheme, in spite of proposals in its new training initiative.

Delegates also instructed the national executive to ensure that adult education, part-time opportunities and community based activities were included in proposals to set up tertiary colleges.

North American news

Academic unions hit trouble

from Peter David WASHINGTON Trade unions seeking to represent academic staff in private colleges and universities face an uphill task after decisions by the National Labour Relations Board, the government body responsible for enforcing industrial relations law in the public sector.

After a two-year silence, the board has ruled on five controversial Supreme Court decisions which say academics who help to manage their own institutions are not entitled to form unions or enter collective bargaining agreements.

About 48 cases have been filed with the board since the Supreme Court's 1980 ruling that academics at Yeshiva University, a private religious college in New York, were not entitled to unionize. The court said their control over tenure, curriculum and other academic policies meant that effectively they managed the institution.

Last month the board ruled that three universities which had filed cases fall into the Yeshiva category and so were not obliged to bargain with faculty unions. They were Ithaca College, Tiel College and the law school of Duquesne University.

Bradford College in Massachusetts was run by its president with minimal participation, and doctors at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine had little role in education policy.

The decisions have disappointed the national associations representing academic staff. Mr Robert Gorman, president of the American Association of University Presidents, said the board had apparently decided to deal with the issue of faculty unionization case by case.

In the two years since the Yeshiva decision the unions have tried to persuade the Supreme Court to reconsider. They have also tried to introduce legislation in Congress which would recognize academics as a special case.

The NLRB's decision leaves the unions little choice but to accept the Yeshiva proposition that academic participation in decision-making is not compatible with collective bargaining. But they will continue to contest individual cases filed with the board.

Professor Joel Douglas, Director of the National Centre for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions, predicted that unions would begin to introduce arguments which dispute their managerial role.

advisers," he said. The academic unions have drawn little comfort from the fact that in two of the five cases decided by the NLRB permission for collective bargaining was given. Shortly after being awarded permission to unionize, staff at Bradford College voted against a proposal to do so.

The board's ruling on Ithaca College, which it stripped of permission to form a union, suggests that any university with substantial academic self-government will fall into the Yeshiva category.

Reversing a 1978 ruling on the college, the board cited faculty control over graduation requirements and examinations as well as over tenure and hiring as reasons for an end to collective bargaining.

Under law, college staff can try to form unions without the endorsement of the national board, but they would cease to be protected by America's labour relations legislation and employers would not be obliged to negotiate with them.

The bleak prospects for private university unions have brought the formation of bargaining units to a halt in the private sector, according to the centre for studies in collective bargaining. In the public sector, however, collective bargaining is on the increase with a recent decision by 19,000 lecturers at California State University to form a union.

Technology park will be a boost for jobs

from E. Patrick McQuaid CAMBRIDGE

Hard on the heels of a report linking New England's economic vitality to the quality of its schools (THE TIMES, April 16) has come a proposal for a coalition of high-technology industries, engineering colleges, and government officials that the State of Massachusetts help found a college for education and research in micro-electronics.

Legislation has been filed with the endorsement, parenthetically, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which plans to construct its own large integration research centre. Should the proposal be approved by both chambers of the state legislature and Governor Edward J. King, the \$40m Massachusetts Technology Park will be the largest institution of its kind in the US.

The primary interest in the coalition is the training of engineering and high technology students for the development and production of solid state microcircuits, known as computer "chips". Currently the bulk of domestic production is in California's silicon valley. Texas and Arizona have provided some competition and East Coast and Midwest states have allocated funds to stimulate high technology and attract semiconductor manufacturers.

First, he said, will be "a foundry for manufacturing integrated circuits where students can implement their designs on silicon". At present, he explained, "only one or two universities in the state can fabricate integrated circuits. With this facility our universities will attract and educate the engineering manpower needed for the state's future in this field."

The technology park, he continued, would also provide a site where high-school graduates and two-year polytechnic graduates will acquire a knowledge of and experience in fabrication technology.

The Bishop of Lesotho, Desmond Tutu, is to be given an honorary degree by Columbia University. And to award it Columbia's president, Mr Michael Sovern is to apply for a visa to visit South Africa.

Bishop Tutu, an outspoken critic of apartheid, was prevented from visiting Columbia by his government, and the permission of the university trustees was needed for the degree to be awarded personally in South Africa by the university's president.

In an address to graduating students, Mr Sovern described the Anglican bishop as "a beacon of hope and decency in a dark land". A chair was left empty for Bishop Tutu at the university's commencement day ceremonies.

Bishop Tutu's degree, an honorary doctorate of sacred theology, would be only the third awarded off the campus of the 228-year-old university. The first was presented to Abraham Lincoln during the American civil war and the second to supreme court justice William Douglas in 1979.



More cash donations than ever

Private financial support for colleges and universities in the US is continuing to grow despite the recession, according to a survey published last week by the Council for Financial Aid to Education.

In 1980-81 private donors boosted their contributions to higher education by more than 11 per cent, pushing the total given to institutions to a record \$4,230m, the council said. Voluntary support had increased by more than 75 per cent since 1975 and now accounts for \$350 million of the cost of each of the 12 million students currently enrolled.

"It is clear from this record of growth in giving to higher education that the corporate world is responding to the needs of colleges and universities in a most positive manner," said Mr John Haire, president of the council.

Budget cuts threaten Minnesota

Land-grant universities face severe problems because of Ronald Reagan's higher education policies and a tight economy, according to the president of Minnesota University, Peter Magrath.

His university has almost 59,000 students on its four campuses. The Minneapolis-St Paul branch, with about 47,000 students, is the largest single campus in the nation.

The university was one of about 130 colleges and universities established since the Federal Land Grant Act in 1869 provided for the donation of public lands to states which wished to establish educational institutions.

Land-grant universities changed the direction of public higher education, by teaching practical subjects like agriculture and home economics in addition to classical ones like English and history.

North and Midwest now suffer greater strains than those in other parts of the country because economic conditions in these areas are more depressed.

The university's problems are largely budgetary. The Reagan government is threatening to reduce federal long-standing support for all of higher education. About 16 per cent of Minnesota's budget now comes from the Federal Government.

The result might be cuts in Federal money available for research grants and contracts at the university. The university annually collects about \$90m in Federal research grants and contracts.

Past research at Minnesota has led to a wide range of achievements. New soybean varieties and more barley (the most widely grown barley in the US) were developed here. The first successful bone marrow transplant was performed here as the result of research.

Government continue supporting land-grant universities and other higher education institutions because state governments won't be able to pick up the slack.

In Minnesota, for example, the state government is struggling over what to do about revenues which fell about \$768m short of expectations for the current biennium. This has led to cuts at the University of Minnesota of over \$26m.

Cuts already mean that student tuition will increase, employees will be laid off and about 95 programmes are being eliminated or reduced. Harvard, hit is the university's college of liberal arts. The South Asian studies department is being scaled down at the school of library science will close.

The University of Minnesota president describes himself as "essentially an optimist" - and therefore wants to believe that the current economic climate is temporary.

Minimal pay rises could save posts

Staff at Temple University in Philadelphia are being asked by their union and by their employers to consider a new contract.

It would mean that pay increases would be kept to a minimum in return for a pledge that there would be no further redundancies.

The university has already notified 50 tenured lecturers that their employment would have to cease as part of a programme of economies designed to prevent the institution from falling into debt.

Under the proposed contract, further redundancies would be ruled out if staff accept a pay increase of only 4.5 per cent this year.

Overseas news

Young hopefuls vie for places

from John Walsh DUBLIN

A record number of Irish teenagers have applied for university places for next October, but less than half will succeed.

Already the Central Applications Office has received 19,585 applications for the universities, National Institutes for Higher Education in Dublin and Limerick, Thomond College (a specialist teacher training institute) and Dublin Institute of Technology. A further 500 late applications are expected.

There was an unexpected drop from 1,200 to 700 in the number of overseas applications lodged with the CAO.

If previous trends are followed about a quarter of the 20,000 applicants will fail to get basic entry qualifications, about 8,000 to 9,000 will accept offers of places and about 6,000 to 7,000 qualified young people will be turned away by over-crowded colleges or will not accept offers for one reason or another.

There were some interesting changes in the pattern of applications

this year. Applications for pre-medical courses were down; probably a reaction to frequent statements that the Republic is producing too many doctors for its needs. But even with the reductions in first preferences applications from around 2,200 to 1,700, there were still six times as many applicants as there were places.

Applications for arts courses in the five universities colleges are also down; again probably a reaction to warnings about job problems facing arts graduates.

Coinciding with publication of the CAO figures came the latest statistical report from the Higher Education Authority containing, among other data, valuable information of the type of person who gets to college.

It gave the socioeconomic background of full-time students in 1980/81 in the universities, National Institutes for Higher Education (Dublin and Limerick) and the National College of Art and Design.

trated in the "upper" income brackets, such as, children from managerial and professional backgrounds.

Only 214 children of agricultural workers made the grade. Just over 10,000 came from professional homes or their parents were in the employment managers category, while 2,400 were the sons and daughters of "skilled employees". Parents of a sixth of the students were from the non-manual categories, such as clerks, typists, bus drivers, postmen and storekeepers. Skilled manual workers' children accounted for 1,662 and semi-skilled for 536. There were only 300 sons and daughters of labourers and unskilled workers in the colleges surveyed.

The report also gives the ages of those entering college. It accounts for 7,120 students who entered for the first time in October 1980. At the time of the survey, January 15 1981, 2,129 of the students were 17 and under, 3,086 were aged 18 and 982 aged 19. At the other end of the age scale there were only 140 in the 25-29 age bracket and 138 students over 29 years old.

Qualifying the new Australians

from Geoff Maslen MELBOURNE

Australia's intake of new settlers is expected to reach 120,000 this year. Among them are perhaps 15,000 people who possess higher education qualifications whose value to the country are immense.

But not all are graduates from recognized universities and colleges with standards Australians believe to be acceptable.

To help the professions, such as medicine, architecture, nursing, teaching and so on, determine whether the migrants are qualified for admission, and therefore for practice, the commonwealth government in 1969 set up the Committee on Overseas Professional Qualifications. The committee is chaired by a former vice-chancellor of La Trobe University, Dr D. M. Myers, and serves to help Australian embassies give prospective migrants an accurate assessment of their qualifications in Australia terms, before they take the decision to quit their own land.

The committee also gives overseas-trained people already in Australia assessments, either directly, or through professional bodies, registration boards, or higher education institutions. For example, last year the committee recommended that more



Migrants learning English at Canberra TAFE College.

than 660 individuals trained overseas should be regarded as meeting Australian requirement in their respective professions.

The committee's work costs the government 500,000 dollars (about £290,000) a year, but as Dr Myers points out, the assessment procedures are playing a major role in making the skills of migrants available to the community - skills that would have cost Australia millions of dollars to have educated the migrants here.

The committee has established panels of experts in 15 specific professions, and working parties, small

groups with specific and short-term goals, to look into such fields as computer science, English testing, interpreter qualifications and technical qualifications.

The committee's latest report shows that it explored more than 50 different occupations last year and it gives some insight into the sorts of people attracted to Australia. While only four distinctions came before the committee in 1981, nearly 1,000 nurses, 300 computer programmers, 600 teachers, five physicists and two statisticians sought to have their qualifications declared acceptable.

VDUs cause stress, says institute's study

by Thomas Land

Visual display units of word processors cause eyestrain, backache and exhaustion if used for long periods, says a research report prepared by the Institute of Labour Science of the Technical University in West Berlin.

The report quoted by a United Nations study scanning the industrial and health risks of the flickering screens - considers that the human eye is stressed and sometimes overstressed in several display tasks. The main stress factor is the frequent switching of eyes from the copy to the keyboard and screen and back up to 33,000 head or eye movements per day, and the consequence is strain, monotony and fatigue.

Adult council relieved

New Zealand's National Council of Adult Education, under threat of abolition last week, has been told by the minister of education that its life has been spared - but its annual government grant of NZ \$280,000 (about £110,000) will be halved next year.

All 11 staff members of the council are understood to have been told that their jobs will go at the end of the year and the council is expected to be staffed by only three people - probably one professional administrator, an assistant and a clerical assistant.

National council chairman Mrs Beverley Morris says she is bitterly disappointed that the council has had to suffer more than the 3 per cent cut that the government is seeking to apply to all departments.

Left claims victory at Hebrew University

from Bunny Morris JERUSALEM

After a year of crisis and conflict, the Hebrew University's student union has finally split, leaving the university facing a complex legal conundrum and the centre and left-wing student groups poised for victory in their struggle against the right-wing Kastel faction that has dominated the union for the past six years.

After formally splitting from the union and setting up an alternative organization - the Hebrew University Student Association - the centre and left-wing groups last week held elections (boycotted by the Kastel supporters) at which they won some 4,000 votes.

This number was about double the number of votes won by Kastel in the summer of 1981 in a poll then boycotted by the opposition groups because, they charged, the election regulations allowed the incumbent Kastel faction to indulge in massive fraud and gerrymandering.

The centre and left-wing groups, and the university administration, regard the association poll and its results as a moral victory for the opposition and a major defeat for Kastel and its leaders, who have often in the past years clashed with the university authorities.

Former Kastel head and NUS chairman Yisrael Katz was recently expelled for two years from the university and current student union chairman Haim Ben-David was given a two-year suspended expulsion after being found guilty by a university disciplinary board of committing acts of violence and incitement against Arab students last December.

The university's executive committee, the senior governing body of the institution, will meet next month to decide whether or not to uphold a previous contingent executive committee decision to withdraw recognition from the student union and possibly accord recognition to the new association.

Three months ago the committee decided to withdraw recognition from the union (and stop all funding of it) if the union did not hold elections by May 18, regulated by a set of proposals drawn up last year by jurist Hans Klinghoffer aimed at ending the gerrymandering and fraud.

The union at a plenum meeting subsequently decided, after intense university pressure, to hold the elections of time and governed by the Klinghoffer proposals. But a number of union activists - opposition sources claim that they were covertly instructed by the Kastel chiefs - appealed to the Jerusalem district court to halt the elections on the grounds that the plenum's decision was not legal as there had not been the requisite two-thirds majority voting for it.

The district court agreed with the appellants and issued an injunction forbidding the elections.

The opposition groups, suspecting that the move had been engineered by the incumbent union chiefs who feared that Kastel would lose in the elections, promptly established the new association and, with university assistance, organized a new poll, which Kastel boycotted.

The Kastel chiefs then appealed to the district court to halt the association poll on the grounds that the association was not a legal or recognized body.

The district court, after issuing a temporary injunction, allowed the association elections to go through but instructed the university management while not to recognize the new association and to aid the old union in holding elections on June 9. The court, however, allowed the university administration to decide whether to remove its recognition from the union.

The court ruling, which all sides viewed as a compromise, leaves the university in a bind. "A major factor in our considerations will have to be the will of the students, as expressed in the association poll. But we must also decide by the court ruling not to recognize, for the time being, the new association," said one university source.

Strike called over student detained without trial

from D. B. Udagama COLOMBO

The students' council of the University of Jaffna called a three-day token strike in protest against the continued detention without charge or trial of a colleague, Mr A. Vimalarajah, suspected of being a "terrorist".

The students said that representations had been made to President J. R. Jayewardene. They also said that Mr Vimalarajah who has been in prison since April is an asthmatic and his continued detention would affect his health.

They called on undergraduates in other universities to join in the protest and got substantial support at Batticaloa and a token strike in Colombo. In Jaffna and Batticaloa the protest was also supported by a substantial number of schoolchildren.

Thirty three students, including seven undergraduates were arrested by the police for distributing leaflets "inciting" students to strike. They were released after their statements were recorded but the seven undergraduates were produced before a magistrate and subsequently released on bail.

After the strike was over, the chairman of the UGC, Dr Stanley Kalpage said he had discussed with President Jayewardene three demands made by the Jaffna students.

It had been decided that Mr Vimalarajah should be allowed to sit the BSc degree examination while in detention (he was taken into custody for alleged subversive activity shortly before he was to have sat his final).

Dr Kalpage said that two other demands made by the students were unacceptable to the government. They were that Mr Vimalarajah should either be released immediately or brought to trial and that he be allowed visitors.

The Prevention of Terrorism Act allows a suspect to be detained by ministerial order to an aggregate period not exceeding 18 months.

Bhutan goes on the degree map

Degree courses will be available for the first time in Bhutan, an independent country that is a UN member and has treaty links with India, which is responsible for its defence. Bhutan borders north-eastern India.

A junior college at Kanglung in Bhutan has been upgraded to degree status and affiliated to Delhi University. Last year, it has offered an education for only 12 years, ten years of school and two years at junior college. Now, students will be able to go on to three years of degree level.

According to the federal education ministry, the Bhutanese junior college asked for affiliation. A Delhi University team, including the vice-chancellor and the dean of colleges, visited Bhutan and were convinced that the college had enough facilities to merit upgrading.

Handwritten note: The Bishop of Lesotho

BOOKS

Unstuffy vigour

The Letters of D. H. Lawrence, volume two: June 1913–October 1916 edited by George J. Zytaruk and James T. Boulton Cambridge University Press, £20.00 ISBN 0 521 23111 6

The Trespasser by D. H. Lawrence edited by Elizabeth Mansfield Cambridge University Press, £22.50 and £6.95 ISBN 0 521 22264 8 and 29424 X

"I don't care about form, in a letter. I just like people to give me a real bust of themselves." So Lawrence writes to Henry Savage, September 4, 1913, in one of the two hundred or so previously unpublished letters included in this second volume of the Cambridge edition of his correspond-

ence. His own writing lives up marvelously to this requirement. His personality seems to flow straight from his pen to the paper; and though his letters are by no means flawless, no deliberate shaping interferes with the quick, spontaneous, lithe, organic movement of the language. Like his mature poems, to which they are very closely allied, they avoid any semblance of "strutting stuff" and try instead "to get an emotion out in its own course, without altering it."

It is precisely because of this quality of direct, unstuffy vigour and the unpremeditatedly native Englishness of his style that Lawrence is one of our greatest and most attractive letter-writers. Like Keats in his letters he exemplifies the English that "ought to be kept up"; and all the more so because he never seems to have his eye on publication or posterity.

Of course, he is full of inconsistent twists and turns, outrageously unwarranted assertions, hectoring didacticism and not a little sheer black bile; but when he is betrayed into writing like this (often because of recurrent bouts of ill health) he at least has the saving grace to realize it. "After that last letter of mine," he apologizes to one friend, "I wanted to kick myself. What right have I to talk to you from the top of a stool?" Some of these outbursts can still make almost painfully embarrassing reading today — as when he lectures Middleton Murry on the right way to behave towards Katherine Mansfield, or scolds Lady Ottoline Morrell for her "strong, old-developed will", or raves at Bertrand Russell (in what he afterwards admits to be a kind of "thunderstorm") for being a self-deceived militant peace-monger:

"Your basic desire is the maximum of desire of war, you are really the super-war-spirit". Even here, however, the writing has a kind of negative vitality. In the most acute moments that energy and intense responsiveness which makes the letters such a vivid register of surrounding life.

Lawrence's remarkable feeling for "spirit of place" is, if anything, better here than in his travel-books as such. "It is wonderful weather," he writes from Italy (which always seems to bring out the best in him), "dawn a great puff of rose, and olive trees shimmering in the sun all day, the vines going red, the sea misty blue and motionless, evening coming fierce with colour, red light on the olive trees, and islands like blackish amethysts upon a flaming sky and sea." He promptly turns on himself with: "Another gorgeous sentence to offend you (in this case Walter de la Mare's taste) and he finishes the letter with a touch of conscious baloney: "There are flies and fleas into the bargain, and the villages stink." Thus he reacts against his own raptures, and gets the insects into the picture as well.

The letters can be dipped into; but they are better read as a whole, for collectively they are the expression of the whole man. Philosophizing and comment on books and on the poems and paintings of friends rub shoulders with gossip, scenery and household chores (even down to

arguing with his Cornish landlord about the siting of two outside WC's), the implicit *raison d'être* for all this being the sense of balance which exclusive "ecstasy" denies. As he writes to Gordon Campbell: "... Ecstasy achieves itself by virtue of exclusion; and in making any passionate exclusion, one has already put one's right hand in the hand of the left." Lawrence's letters achieve their own "ecstasies", but these are redeemed by reading on to the next paragraph, or letter, which invariably reintroduces something that might seem to have been left out.

The letters in this volume reveal the man at the height of his powers. He is justified when he writes (January 5, 1915), "I am coming into my full feather, at last I think." Lawrence himself, however, would have rejected the suggestion that his "full feather" could be summed up in a manner of writing which somehow implies its message through openness and inclusiveness. He had an explicit message to communicate (though not, as he said, a general message, "because I believe a general message is a general means of sidetracking one's own personal difficulties"), and this commitment is as urgently felt in the letters, especially those written after the outbreak of war, as it is in

Love of nature and man

William Collins and Eighteenth-Century English Poetry by Richard Wendorf University of Minnesota Press, \$25.00 ISBN 0 8166 1058 4

William Wordsworth: the poetry of grandeur and of tenderness by David B. Pirie Methuen, £14.95 ISBN 0 416 31300 0

A critic of Wordsworth has an ostensibly unfair advantage over a critic of Collins: his subject is vital and moving. There have been critics who have revered poetry apparently dead; but Richard Wendorf is not of their company. His book is a highly accomplished academic treatment of a poet of academic interest. It will be welcomed by scholars, but it will persuade no one to read Collins.

The first chapter very clearly and cogently disposes of obstructive biographical myths and of consequent distorted readings of the poems based on the association of this sort of poetry with madness. The best of the subsequent chapters carefully characterized the conceptions of poetry which Collins held, his view of nature as distinguished from Thomson's in particular, and the musical theory lying behind "The Paston". This latter exposition is accompanied by textual analysis occasionally fanciful but mostly precise. The whole constitutes a thorough and scholarly demonstration that Collins's poetry was not the effluence of what Hazlitt called "fine madness", but the result of self-conscious effort to write in ways simultaneously new and intelligently aware of the past.

In his conclusion, Wendorf acknowledges that there are limitations in Collins's achievement, but he does not confront adequately the possibility that the efforts were doomed by the conceptions underlying them. For example, he often shows how Collins deliberately "turned" in his poetry away from actual human actions to abstractions which he personalized and rendered in largely visual and musical terms. Wendorf's attention is usually on how Collins develops a distinctive personal relationship between the poet and these abstractions: it is never on what sorts of human interest might be lost in this process. This may not be what makes the poetry literate — it may be more simply that the diction is atrocious or that the subjects are made boring — but if it is offered as something distinctive, the question must be raised: and the author of a monograph owes an answer. If it be said that at this date an academic critic no longer needs to

show why his author is worth reading, David Pirie's book would constitute an apt reply. Most of us think we know why Wordsworth's poetry moves us (or does not); but this is the sort of book which will force all admirers and detractors, to more lively and conscious response, and leave detractors with a formidable sense of proof. It is a contentious book, though clearly argued from conviction, not for the sake of contentions. More importantly, it conveys constantly the sense that Wordsworth as "a man speaking to men" has vital things to say — that he must be read.

The main argument is that there is an opposition in Wordsworth between his poetry of grandeur and his poetry of tenderness. By this is meant that on the one hand Wordsworth expresses love of the natural world of rocks and stones and trees, which is endless, stable, but indifferent to individual men, that on the other hand he celebrates the love between human beings, which is painfully not endless, and that between the two loves there is always tension, even when they coexist (as they frequently do in the best poems). Consequently Pirie is scornful of those readers who, taking as their cue a phrase from the subtitle of Book VIII of *The Prelude* ("Love of Nature leading to Love of Man"), have tried to see the two loves as continuous. Such readers, he accuses, include the older Wordsworth himself. For Pirie, the inhabit only the impersonal world, like the Pedlar of *The Excursion*, brings consolation and peace, yet is inhuman in its implied indifference to human mutual tenderness; to inhabit only the world of vulnerable tenderness, as Margaret comes to, is to suffer uselessly, perhaps insanely. Sanity and humanity lie not in progressing from one world to the other, but in moving flexibly between them in response to the complexities of experience and changing need.

It is clearly undeniable that both these loves are expressed by Wordsworth and that they are logically separable, so the material of Pirie's thesis is unquestionable. Whether the relation between them, in Wordsworth's thought is the same as in Pirie's is another matter, to be settled only by detailed analysis of each relevant poem. My own general conclusion was that in some poems it is, and in others not; but such an unexciting summary gives a very misleading impression of the effect of the book. On each of the poems and passages, he discusses (that is, the majority of what are generally agreed to be the most important) in a clear, close, and often a stringently counter-argument. Since the material of his thesis is so central, this takes one to the heart of the poetry whether one accepts his interpretation or not. One is made to see through its most powerful components and to re-evaluate one's response to the relation between them.

Each reader is best left to do that

for himself. I will instead raise a more general issue concerning the terms of Pirie's thought, as revealed by his phrase "intelligent unidirection." For Pirie, to be intelligent is to "respect conflicting instincts"; to have a unifying principle of thought (such as Wordsworth's later orthodoxy) is to blind oneself in cowardice. This is a glib dogma which does not follow from the fact that the earlier poetry of Wordsworth is much better than the later (whether or not Pirie's reading of the earlier poetry is correct). But a critic who openly reveals the terms of his own thought demands respect and provokes further thought.

Peter New
Peter New is lecturer in English at the University of Exeter.

of the earlier "fluid, luscious quality" still remains. It is a difficult book to get through. Helena is an interesting study of the sexually unresponsive "dreaming" woman who unwittingly destroys the man she arouses, but Siegmund as a happy priest of the sun" and Siegmund as morose husband and tormented lover do not cohere very convincingly. There also remains something incomplete in the use of Wagnerian motifs, which constantly promise a deeper level of symbolic meaning which is never quite realized.

The editorial work is again excellent. The text is based on the revised (1912) manuscript, which, it is argued, comes nearer to Lawrence's final intentions than the printed first edition. Dr Mansfield's introduction traces the composition of the novel and the changing relationship between Lawrence and Helen Corke, which influenced the characterization of Helena. There is also a well-researched account of the novel's early critical reception (including notice of an unusually perceptive review by Rebecca West), but, disappointingly, subsequent criticism is ignored.

R. P. Draper
R. P. Draper is professor of English at the University of Aberdeen.

Peter New
Peter New is lecturer in English at the University of Exeter.

Terra incognita

Quest in Modern American Poetry by Peter Revell Vision Press, £13.95 ISBN 0 85478 454 3

This volume is a chronological treatment of five long poems: Conrad Aiken's *The Divine Pilgrim*; the *Cantos* of Ezra Pound; S. Eliot's *Four Quartets*; H.D.'s *Trilogy*; and William Carlos Williams's *Paterson*. Its principal contention is that the fractured, seemingly random texturing of such works is a necessary response to the philosophically insecure and pluralistic culture in which we live.

Peter Revell begins, therefore, with an analysis of the theories of Bergson and Freud, less for their intrinsic interest than for the extent to which they are symptomatic of a shift in world-view that accompanied the transition from the nineteenth to the twentieth century. Particularly he remarks the displacement of Victorian generalizations, the empiricism which grants ontological primacy to objects, by a modern relativism, a theory based on the primacy of relations. This ideological rupture, or changes for, an absolute and orderly reality one that is finite, and producing a view of time as Bergson claims they acquired their text (or texts) being contained in time present (the new encompassing text).

This volume, then, is a series of missed opportunities. It makes no major contributions to the critical debate. It may, however, be recommended to the tyro as a fluent digest of known opinion.

John Osborne
Dr Osborne is lecturer in American studies at the University of Hull.

great and the underestimated; all are represented by poems that rank among their most ambitious and successful, each is shown to have responded differently to the common situation; and the overall argument is lightly garnished with original *alleges* (for example he notes that Aiken anticipated Williams's more famous paralling of the modern city and the human mind).

Yet despite these several merits, this study disappoints. The notion that American poets have made a speciality of the experimental epic of quest has been a familiar one since Roy Harvey Pearce's *The Continuity of American Poetry* of twenty years ago. Our critic lacks the conceptual boldness to challenge, seriously or refresh this orthodox view. He seems unaware that in the past two decades scholarly research has demonstrated that modernist arts to share the characteristics he attributes to poetry alone. Had he mentioned the names of Rilke, MacDiarmid, Jones or Bunting, he might have rectified the misapprehension that quest poetry is a peculiarly American phenomenon. By allocating a chapter apiece to Pound, Eliot and Williams, he leaves himself no room for the more recent, less celebrated, equally accomplished verse epics of Louis Zukofsky, Charles Olson, Robert Duncan and Gary Snyder.

The author's critical technique is a further cause for concern. He repeatedly suggests that his chosen poets are great because they are wise; affirmative in an era when most affirm assiduously as soundly as they can. He locates the celebratory philosophy, he not only implies that great art cannot be made out of unpalatable views, but oddly declines to consider how philosophical ideas are mediated by the text. Two tokens of this neglect are a native identifying of the poets with their questing narrators and a refusal to acknowledge the awesome flaws that give their sprawling masterpieces. The irony is that deep formal analysis would have buttressed his case. He has little to say, for example, of that palimpsestic technique with which the poets incorporate into their works previous writings by other hands (as when Pound launches *The Cantos* with an annotated translation of Book XI of *The Odyssey*). Yet this is their most direct means of expressing precisely what a view of time as Bergson, time past (the previous text or texts) being contained in time present (the new encompassing text).

This volume, then, is a series of missed opportunities. It makes no major contributions to the critical debate. It may, however, be recommended to the tyro as a fluent digest of known opinion.

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BOOKS

GEOGRAPHY

Soil surveys

Principles and Applications of Soil Geography edited by E. M. Bridges and D. A. Davidson Longman, £6.95 ISBN 0 582 30014 2

Soil and the Environment: a guide to soil surveys and their applications by Gerald W. Olson Chapman & Hall, £15.00 and £6.50 ISBN 0 412 23750 4 and 23760 1

Land Evaluation edited by S. G. McRae and C. P. Burnham Clarendon Press: Oxford University Press, £15.00 ISBN 0 19 854518 5

The common themes in these three publications, with varying emphasis, are the spatial variation in properties of soil and land, the expression of such variation in mainly cartographic form, and its evaluation for agricultural or non-agricultural purposes.

Soil survey is a major activity for a fairly small group of professional landowners. The author, hold, with some justification, that a much wider group of people, both inside and outside the educational sector, need a better insight into the procedures, output and usefulness of soil and land classification surveys. At the simplest level this case is stated (in all three books) along the lines: land, of which soil is a critical part, is a finite natural resource, easily damaged or alienated, but not easily replaced or renewed.

Principles and Applications of Soil Geography, edited and partly written by Bridges and Davidson with contributions from five other authors, includes much straightforward information, well organized and presented. Aimed primarily at the undergraduate reader, it contains chapters on the changing effect of man on the land in the archaeological and historical periods, on soil survey procedures, classification, applications, data handling, modelling processes and spatial patterns, and on world soil and food resources. The book is well illustrated with diagrams and monochrome maps which, with one or two exceptions, are clear and legible.

As with many books having multiple authorship, however, the balance and continuity is somewhat uneven. Sections of the book range from the familiar, generally accepted, information to more advanced or speculative procedures which have barely been absorbed by professionals in this field. There is obviously no onus on the editors to present the student with only bland conventional wisdom, but unevenness and lack of cross-referencing must be accepted as conspicuous features of the book.

Professor Olson's book covers a surprisingly similar range of topics. Intended as one in a series of texts on "Environment, Energy and Society", it is a very American book, with pragmatic, simple, clear writing, and little reliance on contemporary work outside the Americas. It contains chapters on field and laboratory procedures, soil classification (taken to a local level using detailed maps from various parts of the United States), computerized data processing, engineering and agricultural applications, archaeological aspects, and "Planning for the future". Although the prime audience is stated in the preface as "lay-persons" — soil scientists and other technically trained people — the book is also commended to, among others, farmers, pre- and in-service teachers, and advisers.

From a British viewpoint, however, the level of presentation is appropriate to the field of study, with an attempt to pull in a wider readership. These are laudable aims and the book could have been very useful to British readers if the choices of examples to demonstrate spatial and interpretative points had been wider. A more fundamental fault, however, is

the appallingly low quality of the monochrome maps, particularly in the fortunate as Professor Olson states that "the basic message of this book is visual, based on the photographs, maps, diagrams and graphs". Most of the maps seem to have been reduced from other publications to the point where both legend and map are illegible. Tabular data on pages 84 and 85 are similarly illegible without a magnifying glass. The photographs are mainly of good quality.

McRae and Burnham's book, one of a series of monographs on soil survey, is somewhat more specialized than the other books. Although the intended readership is not defined, the book seems to be aimed primarily at the postgraduate and professional worker. Undergraduates in agriculture and environmental sciences should, however, find useful information here.

Individual chapters describe the measurement of agricultural production, soil and site information, land suitability for individual crops, agricultural land capability by category systems and by parametric systems, evaluation for irrigation, forestry and non-agricultural purposes, and finally land-use planning and resource inventories. No summaries of soil description, analyses or surveying methodologies are provided, the general assumption being either that the soil map exists, or one must be made, before processes of evaluation can seriously be undertaken. The book is strong on tabular and reference examples but rather less so on maps. There is good coverage of American and British systems of land classification and adequate descriptions of other national systems.

Considering the more advanced nature of the book, the purist may be looking for some new inspired insight to bring order to a subject which is clearly in need of it. He will be disappointed and for obvious reasons. Land classification or evaluation in all parts of the world is needed by and for ordinary men, farmers, administrators, engineers, politicians and even voters. It cannot run too far ahead of these users; indeed, there is a heavy inertia to retain even an inadequate system.

The authors have, however, provided a good critical description of the present state of the art; it is doubtful if more was possible.

A. J. Thomasson
A. J. Thomasson is contracts manager of the Soil Survey of England and Wales, based at Rothamsted, Experimental Station.

Spheres of interest

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences edited by David G. Smith Cambridge University Press, £19.95 ISBN 0 521 23900 1

Another coffee-table book on the Earth sciences, but one considerably more worthwhile, stimulating and informative than most of its predecessors. This new encyclopedia succeeds remarkably well in capturing the spirit of intense inquiry, achievement, debate and controversy engendered by the great revolution in the geological sciences of the 1960s, which resulted in the almost universal acceptance of continental drift, and led to the spectacular success of plate tectonic theory in providing a comprehensive and coherent explanation, as well as a predictive framework, for the behaviour of the solid Earth in terms of an integrated heat engine with many moving parts. Before the 1960s, a rag-bag of disconnected disciplines, except by a few prophets who were ignored or ridiculed, and nowadays no genuine breakthrough of the Earth sciences can afford to remain in sacrosanct isolation from any other, the whole being greater than the sum of its parts. Latter-day geologists; just like biologists, need to be numerate and to think first and foremost as phys-

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Translated by T. R. Paton, Macquarie University, Australia

For the first time in English, this book presents an original view of pedology based on the concept of soil as the interface between biological and physical systems. This major statement of French pedological opinion has been updated and slightly revised during translation. It is fully illustrated and has many bibliographical references.

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BOOKS

GEOGRAPHY

A new synthesis

Geography: towards a general spatial systems approach by William J. Coffey. Methuen, £12.95 and £5.50 ISBN 0 416 30970 4 and 30980 1

That general systems theory might provide a unifying framework for science as a whole, and for geography in particular, was a notion which had considerable currency in the 1960s. Inspired especially by von Bertalanffy and other writers on the theory, the geographer Richard Chorley in particular urged the value of systems theory, first, as an approach of value in itself; second, as a means of attaining unity within the discipline of geography between environmental and social perspectives; and third, as an underpinning theoretical position which embraced spatial and analytical technique.

The view that geography could be unified at all and that general systems theory could provide the basis for such unity has been seriously challenged during the 1970s. Diversity, variously termed fragmentation or pluralism, had given reign to challenges to the concept of unity, or even to the theoretical possibilities for justifying the existence, of the discipline of geography at all. However, in the past five years a new desire for unity within geography seems to be emerging. For some this is represented by the integration of environmental and social issues, and for a growing body of opinion various systems methods (rather than systems theory) are strongly urged,

for example, by Orin Chapman in *Human and Environmental Systems* (Academic Press, 1977), and by Robert Bennett and Richard Chorley in *Environmental Systems* (Methuen, 1978).

William Coffey is one of those who desires a new unity within geography, but thinks that methodological unity should be based on systems theory rather than systems methods. He sees it emerging from the linkage of various systems approaches with the "geometric-analytic" approach to spatial problems.

The book is clearly written and develops its underlying idea (of the unity of nature, knowledge, and knowledge about nature) with conviction and persuasion, mainly by use of review and synthesis. Its line of development owes a great deal to Warratz, Bunge, Tobler, Haggett, Woldenberg and Chorley; and indeed could have been written, for example, by Tobler or Warratz in the late 1960s or early 1970s. In assessing the value of the book at the present time it is necessary to determine how far one agrees with the author's basic contention that the subject of geography after a period of fragmentation is now going to enter a new period of unity.

The market level is first or second-year undergraduates in Britain, the United States or Canada, but few courses at present follow such a synthesizing vision. The view that the book could in some sense be "out of time" is taken up by the author in his preface where he asserts that the problem of unity and the geometric-analytic view continue unabated in their import for the subject of geography. Although I would agree with the possibilities of this defence, I would have appreciated more on the dynamics of systems as well as their static behaviour; for example, the recent development of dynamic systems, bifurcation theory, control theory, and dynamic simulation/optimization techniques deserve a more significant place.

The book is thus a stimulating and interesting one at many levels. For



The effects of famine: peasants taking thatch from roofs to feed cattle in Russia. Illustration taken from *The Weather Book*; complete illustrated guide to meteorological phenomena, weather forecasting and climate by John Gribbin, Peter Wright, Ralph Hardy and John Kington, published by Michael Joseph at £12.95.

the undergraduate it should provide an important source text on the systems theory literature and its application to geography. For the professional its importance lies in the implications of its call for a new unity, a call which should stimulate and invigorate an emerging and important area of methodological debate.

R. J. Bennett

R. J. Bennett is lecturer in geography at the University of Cambridge.

level, even though much modern research has focused on the variation in style of deformation with depth, so that we are now able to understand basement as well as cover tectonics. Throughout, I felt that structures were recognized by sociologists at the University of Chicago in the 1920s. In the intervening years, some of the insights of those early scholars, such as Clifford Shaw, as to the possible mechanism of this influence have been confirmed. Social factors in the environment are now generally agreed to be of more fundamental significance than its purely physical characteristics.

Stephen Drury

Stephen Drury is lecturer in earth sciences at the Open University.

Among the more important pointers towards the causes of urban crime, Herbert's research confirms the role of housing tenure (with over-occupancy seeming to reinforce conforming behaviour) and the negative impact of unemployment, particularly as it affects those of lower socio-economic status and ethnic minorities. Both of these factors can be viewed as indicators of a failure to compete successfully in key markets and to obtain access to scarce resources. Whatever causal factors may be identified, however, and whatever level of analysis is favoured for the study of urban crime, the unequivocal message remains that there is a wide variation in the response of individuals and groups to apparently identical conditions of urban life and it is this differential response that presents the greatest challenge to theory and policy alike.

David Herbert

David Herbert is lecturer in urban studies at the University of Hull.

Structural geology

Introduction to Small-scale Geological Structures by Gilbert Wilson, in collaboration with J. W. Cosgrove. Allen & Unwin, £10.00 and £4.95 ISBN 0 04 551051 2 and 551052 0

Many of the modern advances in structural geology flowed from Imperial College during Gilbert Wilson's tenure there as a lecturer, helping to transform a mainly descriptive discipline into a quantitative science. This book, based on a lecture presented in 1958, and first published in 1961, before these new approaches had reached a wide audience, is therefore of considerable historical importance, as it outlines, orders and documents the older concepts in structural geology, out of which developed the new.

However, according to both publishers and author, this is not the reason for its belated publication, as it is presented as an updated introduction to structural geology in the field. As the bibliography contains only 25 references after 1961, and the text consequently omits most recently-discovered minor structures as well as the great wealth of modern theory, this claim does great disservice to its distinguished author. Even as an elementary guide to common structures, its impact on the beginner is blunted by long discussions of multilingual semantics at the expense of clear guidelines to descriptive, analysis and measurement in the field. The illustrations comprise only eight badly reproduced photographs, and about 24 field sketches, the other drawings being idealized or theoretical diagrams. And this is a subject characterized by the enormous diversity of appearance in minor structures.

A constant theme is Sander's concept of structural symmetry. Although this does still have its uses, it has long been superseded by more analytical approaches which are not discussed. Another aspect which clearly dates the text is the concentration on structures of shallow crust.

Criminal spiral

The Geography of Urban Crime by David Herbert. Longman, £4.95 ISBN 0 582 30046 0

For almost 200 years it has been recognized that crime as a social problem tends to be closely linked to the processes of rapid industrialization and the growth of large cities. Thus, the recent outbreaks of violence in many of our deprived inner-city areas can be seen as symptomatic of much broader historical and socio-cultural trends.

Although criminologists throughout this period have been aware, to a greater or lesser extent, of the value of cartographic and ecological approaches to the study of urban crime, professional geographers have only focused their attention on this subject in the past two decades. In Britain, David Herbert's contribution to this work has been outstanding and in this book he presents a valuable and very timely assessment of recent progress towards a "geography of crime".

When the findings of his own research in Cardiff and Swansea are set alongside those of other criminological studies in Sheffield, Liverpool and Glasgow, we have a rare example of true "multidisciplinary" scholarship, so often an empty phrase serving only to camouflage mutual ignorance. Clear indications emerge of parallel developments in the theories and methods of criminologists and social geographers, together

Thames reaches

The Restoration of the Tidal Thames by Leslie B. Wood. Adam Hilger, £22.50 ISBN 0 85274 447 1

The tidal River Thames is that part of the river from Teddington, where a high weir stops the effect of the tides to the region where the river runs into the North Sea. Generally known as "the tideway", it is the most familiar part of Britain's best known river; the reaches on which the university boat races are rowed, and visitors to the capital city cross, or walk beside, and the river that brought shipping into the great dockland areas close to the heart of the city. The story of the decline and subsequent restoration of this river has been told before but never with the authority of Leslie Wood's account.

From its origins London has been supported by the Thames and has increasingly exerted a baneful effect on it. At first, a source of drinking water, a convenient means of transport, and a provider of fresh fish, the various sections of the book provide more than a sufficient insight into the relevant literature. Much discussion centres on "modern" city: Was the city in the nineteenth century already residentially differentiated along the lines revealed by ecological investigations of present-day cities, or were the classes predominantly divided by occupations, if at all? The answer may depend on the nature of the city studied: Engels was perhaps correct in finding sharp residential differentiation in rapidly expanding industrial Manchester, but Ward and other correct in emphasizing the lack of spatial differentiation in established mercantile cities. Interestingly, the historian David Cannadine claims that the "shapes on the ground" that the geographers believe that they have discovered, and the "shapes in society" are so difficult to describe, and the links between them are so complicated and limited, that any research project to investigate them would be extremely difficult to devise.

It is an encouraging feature that contributors to this collection on the social-spatial structure of the

BOOKS

GEOGRAPHY

Shapes on the ground

The Structure of Nineteenth-Century Cities edited by James H. Johnson and Colin G. Pooley. Croom Helm, £13.95 ISBN 0 7099 1412 1

French Cities in the Nineteenth Century edited by John M. Merriman. Hutchinson, £17.50 ISBN 0 09 145200 7

The past 20 years have seen a remarkable upsurge in urban historical studies, particularly of the nineteenth century. As far as the intellectual history of geography is concerned, the development can be related to the realization that the models of the positivistic "new geography" of the 1950s onwards, with its emphasis on the search for spatial theory in present-day relationships, could in fact be applied retrospectively.

These models could be applied nowhere more effectively than to the nineteenth-century British city, in respect of which enormous quantities of data were becoming available through the decennial release of Census enumerators' books, thus providing, as each 100-year ban on release expired, a cross-section of information street by street, household by household and person by person in a richness unavailable for present-day populations. At the same time the computer became available to handle this mass of data, and geographers were not alone in entering this field of "number-crunching" as they were in turn matched by practitioners of the "new urban history". An allied movement was the rise of a new professional "regional history", which attempted to shake off the antiquarianism of the older school of local history.

The collection of papers edited by Johnson and Pooley is derived from an SSRC-supported seminar in 1978, which was not only interdisciplinary in scope but also inter-disciplinary, at least to the extent that six contributors to the present volume are geographers and five historians) but imbued with the concern that "although there were now large numbers of empirical studies of nineteenth-century urban history and historical geography, there had been little attempt to search for links between these studies and relate them to more general theories of nineteenth-century urban development". Although the book lacks an overall bibliography, the individual contributions are copiously annotated and the editors provide an extremely adequate review of research, which together with their introductions to the various sections of the book provide more than a sufficient insight into the relevant literature.

Much discussion centres on "modern" city: Was the city in the nineteenth century already residentially differentiated along the lines revealed by ecological investigations of present-day cities, or were the classes predominantly divided by occupations, if at all? The answer may depend on the nature of the city studied: Engels was perhaps correct in finding sharp residential differentiation in rapidly expanding industrial Manchester, but Ward and other correct in emphasizing the lack of spatial differentiation in established mercantile cities. Interestingly, the historian David Cannadine claims that the "shapes on the ground" that the geographers believe that they have discovered, and the "shapes in society" are so difficult to describe, and the links between them are so complicated and limited, that any research project to investigate them would be extremely difficult to devise.

It is an encouraging feature that contributors to this collection on the social-spatial structure of the

nineteenth-century town divide equally between historians and geographers. The same is true of other topics: an historian and a geographer contribute to the land market and the housing industry, before Anthony Sutcliffe takes up the broader theme of public intervention in the urban environment. Responsibility for the central section on retailing in the urban economy is similarly shared. Interdisciplinarity rules in a collection which opens up new ranges of questions for further investigation.

In his introduction to *French Cities in the Nineteenth Century*, Professor Merriman refers to disquiet about the concentration upon the kind of aggregate studies of social structure that typify the Johnson and Pooley volume. Some writers have begun to condemn the new approach as mere "social theory in an urban context", that treats the city in such an abstract and formal way as to leave no scope for the study of individual action. The urban historian's aim, according to Professor Merriman, must be "to link the individual city and its people, the French national experience and the global processes of social change". Urban historians need to study people, urban traditions, neighbourhoods, festivals and associations over time, but with reference to the larger questions of social and political change.

Residential differentiation as a topic is not ignored, but the main thrust of this collection is historical and political. Professor Merriman and his contributors are primarily concerned to examine the ways in which urbanization and the growth of cities changed political life in France. From local urban studies, themes are developed outwards from the city. In one direction the role of the towns in

the urbanization of the countryside is revealed as more varied and more complex than formerly assumed. In an opposite direction many authors consider the political relationships between growing cities and the state: For example, municipal socialism is seen by Joan W. Scott as serving not to integrate urban workers into the Republic but to oppose French capitalism and its ally, the state.

The meticulous and detailed research of the Merriman volume is impressive; that so many American historians should be immersed in French provincial history is admirable, but the interdisciplinary approach that the Johnson and Pooley volume at least attempts is lacking. To Professor Merriman, geographers are "particularly interested in urban networks" (a view at least 20 years out of date). Economists and sociologists (except as historical witnesses like Le Play) receive scarcely more than a cursory treatment. Even more surprisingly, there is scarcely a reference to those French scholars of Marxist inspiration who have had such an impact on urban studies in France and in the English-speaking lands in the past decade. Castells gets a note and one mention in the bibliography, but neither he nor Lojkin (nor for that matter Marx, Engels or David Harvey) appear in the index.

Perhaps one should say that each of these books has the strength of the other's weakness: together they give anyone interested in nineteenth-century western society hours of valuable reading, and much stimulus to further thought and research.

T. H. Elkins

T. H. Elkins is professor of geography at the University of Sussex.

water for much of the population, water-borne diseases, especially cholera between 1831 and 1865, claimed thousands of victims. The concern for public health eventually, but very tardily, led to the construction of a sewerage system and a refuse disposal system which removed most of the waste from London. From the 1860s, when the system of sewers and the sewage treatment works built by the distinguished engineer Sir Joseph Bazalgette began to function, the condition of the river improved. However, the condition of the water fluctuated over the years with improvements in treatment and the construction of new plants and deterioration from increasing population and economic stress.

By the 1950s the river was again in an appalling condition. Below London at times there was no dissolved oxygen in the water and thus, no possibility of aquatic life for months on end and for many miles of its course. There was also considerable, and justified, concern for the risk to public health from the condition of the water (although it was no longer used for drinking). Mr Wood recounts the steps that remedied the appalling condition of the river and its restoration to a state where it could sustain a rich animal life, and where it could be regarded as a leisure resource for the population of London. The restoration of London being founded by the Romans on a small hillock in the floodplain which offered considerable defensive advantages. While the population of the city remained moderately differentiated along the lines revealed by ecological investigations of present-day cities, or were the classes predominantly divided by occupations, if at all? The answer may depend on the nature of the city studied: Engels was perhaps correct in finding sharp residential differentiation in rapidly expanding industrial Manchester, but Ward and other correct in emphasizing the lack of spatial differentiation in established mercantile cities. Interestingly, the historian David Cannadine claims that the "shapes on the ground" that the geographers believe that they have discovered, and the "shapes in society" are so difficult to describe, and the links between them are so complicated and limited, that any research project to investigate them would be extremely difficult to devise.

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Ocean depths

Marine Geology by James P. Kennett Prentice-Hall, £26.20 ISBN 0 13 556936 2

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J. R. Cann is professor of geology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Needs of the tourist

Tourist Development by Douglas Pearce Longman, £3.95 ISBN 0 582 30053 3

In 1981 worldwide spending on domestic and international tourism reached a total of \$736 billion, making it, arguably (depending on the definition adopted), the largest single item in world trade. As such it is a worthy subject to be addressed in Longman's Topics in Applied Geography series, which attempts to bridge the gap between theoretical work and the solution of practical problems...

Earlier parts of the book are a bit overshadowed by the scope and unity of this last part, and there are parts of the first two sections, on the ocean crust and on continental margins, where I would have liked to see some of the depth and vision accorded the final part.

deficiencies; thus, while presenting the largely mechanistic techniques that geographers have constructed to evaluate tourist resources, the author quotes Pigeorgiou (1967) to remind us that such procedures attempt to do no less than "to reduce phenomena of aesthetic or cultural significance to quantifiable magnitudes for purposes of comparative evaluation".

A more fundamental conceptual weakness in this book is that emanating from the definition of the central theme - tourist development - as being "the provision or enhancement of facilities and services to meet the need of the tourist". This customer-orientation results in a neglect of the issues of what constitutes "development" and who should receive primary consideration when policy is being formulated.

Brian Duffield

Brian Duffield is Director of the Tourism and Recreation Research Unit, University of Edinburgh.

Defining limits

The Dictionary of Human Geography edited by R. J. Johnston Blackwell, £19.50 ISBN 0 631 10721 5

Although this dictionary contains substantial and useful essays on the major subdivisions of the discipline which provide a historical context, the main aims of this ambitious project has been to reflect the dramatic changes in human geography in the past 30 years.

The 1950s saw a tentative movement away from a concern with the unique to an exploration of general theory, and this also provided a point of departure from the popular conception of geography as concerned with "facts" about regions and countries. The 1960s produced the "quantitative revolution" and theoretical developments, it is argued, closely allied to positivism.

Yet there is much in the book which is of value. Despite the limitations of format, Dr Pearce successfully marshals materials from the range of international sources to provide a useful introduction to the difficulties of evaluating tourist resources. Similarly, the chapter on analysing the impact of tourist development encapsulates most of the issues within a simple, but effective schematic framework.

Through necessarily limited, the references deployed by the author span all the continents, with an understandable concentration on France and New Zealand, as these have been the focus of the author's own research. While the book falls short of being the up-to-date review of "the state of the art" claimed for it by the publishers, it certainly does provide direction and guidance for those wishing to read further on this topic.

With circumspection then, the student could expect to find much useful material in this book; and where there are weaknesses it would be wrong to always place them at the door of the author. Although tourism has attracted increased attention from geographers in recent years, the studies that have been undertaken have tended to be long on empiricism and short on theory. Dr Pearce often reminds the reader of these

It is now becoming possible to develop explicit dynamic models for the evolution of spatial structure, the problems here being as hard as (indeed sometimes very similar to) those in other disciplines often considered more "respectable" than geography in the past.

It is possible to be critical. Three examples will suffice. "Accessibility", for instance, is discussed in relation to a narrowly defined geographical literature; and some "transport" references, together with better indications of how to measure it, would have been more useful for students.

Although in a book of this kind, most readers will not doubt find some quibbles in areas of special interest, the Dictionary will be a valuable sourcebook. Students should be able to find useful starting points and initial guides to the literature; tutors should be able to brush up on areas in which they have fallen behind; and a wider audience should see that geography is not what it used to be.

Alan Wilson

Alan Wilson is professor of urban and regional geography at the University of Leeds.

The Dictionary of Human Geography

Edited by R. J. JOHNSTON This is an encyclopedic dictionary of the theories, concepts, techniques and terms of human geography. It is at once a glossary, a guide and a work of reference, and has been conceived, organized and written for professional geographers, students and teachers throughout the world.

Geography and Marxism

MASSIMO QUAINI Edited by Russell King An examination of the relevance of Marxist analysis to the study of geography, exposing the values inherent in supposedly objective geographical studies, and providing radical interpretations of local, regional and global imbalances in people's access to resources of wealth, food and culture.

208 pages, hardback £12.95 (0 631 12565 5) paperback £5.50 (0 631 12616 6) Basil Blackwell Publisher 108 Cowley Road Oxford OX4 1JF

BOOKS

GEOGRAPHY

Patterns of population change

Theoretical Population Geography by Robert Woods Longman, £5.95 ISBN 0 582 30029 0

A Population Geography by Huw R. Jones Harper & Row, £12.00 and £6.50 ISBN 0 06 318188 6 and 318189 4

Population has long been a focal part of human geography, notably in the classic texts of French human geographers of the earlier twentieth century. But in the past geographers were largely concerned with distribution and change in populations as a whole, and less with the dynamics of change and their relationship to demographic structures.

In the postwar years mounting concern over population growth and its environmental impact, together with a more analytical approach to geographical studies, has prompted a renewed and wider interest in population geography in the English-speaking world.

Alan Wilson

Alan Wilson is professor of urban and regional geography at the University of Leeds.

The Dictionary of Human Geography

Edited by R. J. JOHNSTON This is an encyclopedic dictionary of the theories, concepts, techniques and terms of human geography. It is at once a glossary, a guide and a work of reference, and has been conceived, organized and written for professional geographers, students and teachers throughout the world.

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theories of population growth and a brief, but very useful, review of population policy, although this is unfortunately focused almost wholly on fertility control, leaving migration control to be picked up in the concluding chapter on this topic.

These books complement each other admirably. Jones's book will no doubt become a standard introductory text for courses on population geography in sixth forms, colleges and universities. It is a complete and balanced account, with due regard for both methods of demographic analysis and with good examples of spatial trends in population at a variety of scales.

Woods's book addresses itself to more fundamental problems, and with some success. Though not an introductory text, as it assumes a knowledge of basic methods of demographic analysis, the book does offer a broader view of the "grand themes" of population study, which will be of particular value to more advanced students of population geography but which will also appeal to demographers and other social scientists with an interest in spatial analysis of population.

Richard Lawton

Richard Lawton is professor of geography at the University of Liverpool.

Rich harvests

The Fourteenth Century to the Nineteenth Centuries: an essay in comparative history by Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie and Joseph Goy translated by Susan Burke Cambridge University Press, £17.50 ISBN 0 521 23974 5

The Transformation of Rural England, from about 1580 to 1800: a study in historical geography by R. A. Buftin Oxford University Press, £2.50 ISBN 0 19 874046 8

The pioneering work of Slicher van Bath, Abel and Helleiner has led the widely accepted view that in Western Europe between AD 1000 and 1850 there were clearly marked phases of agricultural expansion alternating with depression, and of population increase alternating with decline or stagnation. Although the work of historical demographers has strongly improved knowledge of the numbers of the population, and to a lesser extent the reasons for demographic changes, the course of agricultural production has had to be inferred from scattered archival evidence on changes in the area under cultivation or the movements of agricultural prices.

David Grigg

David Grigg is reader in geography at the University of Sheffield.

The Rise of Suburbia, a collection of essays examining the suburbs of Bromley, Acton and Ealing, Haringley and north Leeds, and Bexley, has been published as the latest addition to Leicester University Press's series on Themes in Urban History, at £22. Edited and introduced by E. M. L. Thompson, each of the book's four chapters uses detailed research into previously untapped sources in support of their investigation of general issues concerning the shaping and timing of suburban development and the determination of the social character of residential districts.

This book is important, not only for its useful summary of much detailed work, but also because of its attempt to quantify trends in agricultural production. Attention is drawn not only to the overall European pattern, but to significant regional differences. There are numerous interesting asides that historians will find stimulating: on the growing extensiveness of farming in the late fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; on the importance of urban demand in the seventeenth century; and on the increasing diversification of production in the eighteenth century.

Advertisement for 'Aspect' Geographies by Macdonald & Evans. Includes titles like 'A Geography of Agriculture', 'A Geography of the EEC', 'A Geography of Settlements', 'Geography of Transport', and 'Tropical Geography'. Each title includes a brief description and pricing.

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Further particulars for the post may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, Welsh National School of Medicine, Heath Park, Cardiff CF4 4XN, to whom applications should be submitted by 30th June, 1982.

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Applications are invited for the post of General Secretary of the Association of University Teachers. The successful candidate will be appointed at an appropriate point on this scale. Further particulars may be obtained from the President of the Association, Mr. J. E. Reilly, c/o The Registry, The University, Canterbury, Kent. Enquiries should be marked Reference No. A11/82.

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Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Urban Planning in the Department of Urban Planning in the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning.

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Application forms and further details are available from the Education Officer (EO/Estab 1b) Room 365, County Hall, London SE1 7PB. (Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.)

Closing date for the return of completed application forms to the above address is 28 June, 1982.

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Part time posts: A. Photography/Graphic Design/Drawing - 30 weeks per year. B. Two-Dimensional Design/Printmaking - 30 weeks per year. C. Drawing and Painting - 30 weeks per year. D. Art and Design History - 30 weeks per year.

Lecturer/Demonstrator in Ceramics and Sculpture. Majority of time (80%) will be spent in the studio as a technician. Grade III in the Department of Art and Design. The successful candidate will be appointed on a full-time basis under the overall direction of the Principal Lecturer in Foundation Studies.

Part time posts: A. Photography/Graphic Design/Drawing - 30 weeks per year. B. Two-Dimensional Design/Printmaking - 30 weeks per year. C. Drawing and Painting - 30 weeks per year. D. Art and Design History - 30 weeks per year.

Lecturer/Demonstrator in Ceramics and Sculpture. Majority of time (80%) will be spent in the studio as a technician. Grade III in the Department of Art and Design. The successful candidate will be appointed on a full-time basis under the overall direction of the Principal Lecturer in Foundation Studies.

Part time posts: A. Photography/Graphic Design/Drawing - 30 weeks per year. B. Two-Dimensional Design/Printmaking - 30 weeks per year. C. Drawing and Painting - 30 weeks per year. D. Art and Design History - 30 weeks per year.

Overseas

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SCHOOL OF ARTS

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Disciplines currently taught in the school include literature, history, geography, journalism and psychology. It is intended to draw upon these as a basis for the communications major. The major will focus on the notion of signification in these and other disciplines, and will embrace both theoretical and practical issues.

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Economy class air fares to Australia together with reasonable removal expenses and settling-in allowance for successful applicants and family will be provided. Applications, giving full personal details, a resume of experience and qualifications together with the names and addresses of three professional referees should be forwarded to:

The Agent General for Queensland 392/393 Strand, London WC2R 0LZ

Closing Date: 25th June 1982.

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Applications are invited for the above post in the Department of Economic History, for appointment on or as soon as possible after 1 January, 1983.

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Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae stating present salary, teaching experience, research interests and publications, the date duty could be assumed and the names and addresses of three referees.

Further information should be obtained either from Miss J. Lloyd, S.A. Universities Office, Chichester House, 278 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HE or the Registrar (attention: Appointments Office), University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa, by whom applications (quoting ref. no.) must be received not later than 6th August, 1982.

The University's policy is not to discriminate in the appointment of staff on the grounds of sex, race or religion. Further information on the implementation of this policy is obtainable on request.

Overseas continued

KING SAUD UNIVERSITY (FORMERLY UNIVERSITY OF RIYADH) SAUDI ARABIA

Applications are invited from EFL/ESL language instructors and language lab technicians (male/female) for the academic year 1982/3.

There are also a few vacancies for Faculty members (Assistant Professor etc) which are open only to persons with sufficient experience as EFL programme developers, materials writers, testing and evaluation specialists.

1. Applicants for faculty membership should hold a Ph.D or equivalent qualification or have obtained the academic title from a university recognised by King Saud University. 2. Language instructors should have either: - a Master's degree in TEFL/TESOL - a Bachelor's degree and a diploma in ELT with no less than one year's ELT experience. - a Bachelor's degree in English with no less than three years' experience in ELT.

3. Technicians should hold a Bachelor's degree and have no less than three years experience.

Salaries will be assessed for faculty members and language instructors according to Schedule 1 hereunder, and according to Schedule 2 for graduate technicians.

SCHEDULE '1'

Table with 6 columns: Post, Start of scale monthly, Annual increment (on monthly salary), End of scale monthly, Transport allowance monthly, Annual housing allowance, Furnishing allowance (payable once only). Rows include Language Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor.

SCHEDULE '2' (GRADUATE TEACHERS)

Table with 6 columns: Start of scale (monthly), Annual increment (on monthly salary), End of scale (monthly), Transport allowance, Annual housing allowance, Furnishing allowance (payable once only). Row includes Graduate Teacher.

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Applications giving full addresses and telephone numbers, accompanied by non returnable photocopies of academic and specialised experience credentials should be sent to: Director of C.E.L.T. College of Arts, King Saud University, PO Box 2486, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Courses Continued

MSc Education Management

Teachers and Administrators with institutional management responsibility are invited to apply for this CMAA 2-year day release programme. Applicants for this post-graduate programme should possess an honours degree and hold a DMS or equivalent post-graduate qualification in Educational Management. Location: Danbury Park.

Enquiries to: The Registrar, Anglian Regional Management Centre, Danbury Park, Chelmsford Essex CM3 4AT Tel: (024 541) 3141



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